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CONTENTS.

	PAGE		PAGE		PAGE
NOTES OF THE WEEK	157	MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES (continued):		CORRESPONDENCE (continued):	
LEADING ARTICLES:		On the Teaching of Music. By John F. Runciman	167	Weak Heads and New Wine. By W. G. Hooper	171
Mr. Balfour's Opportunity	160	"We, the Undesignated, By Max Beerbohm	168	REVIEWS:	
The Position of Parties	161	The City	169	Mankind and the Classics	172
War Policy: New Faces other Minds	162	American Life Assurance	170	Irish Rancour and Reconciliation	172
Oxford Theology and the Church	163			The Drama of Cawnpur and Lucknow	174
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES:		CORRESPONDENCE:		Polity and Growth	175
A Judicial Selection: His Honour Judge Emden	164	Organised Labour and the Tariff Question. By Burford Hooke	170	Fanny Burney	176
The M.C.C. at Home and in Australia	165	A or An before the Aspirate. By Count A. E. Gallatin	171	NOVELS	176
A Quarterly Reviewer. By D. S. MacColl	166	Plagiarised Purple? By F. F. Montague	171	LORD SALISBURY AND THE "QUARTERLY REVIEW"	177
				FEBRUARY REVIEWS	178

NOTICE: It is proposed to publish a collection of Mr. Armine Kent's poems and essays at a subscription price of one guinea. The Editor would be obliged if intending subscribers would communicate with him.

We beg leave to state that we decline to return or to enter into correspondence as to rejected communications; and to this rule we can make no exception. Manuscripts not acknowledged within four weeks are rejected.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

It has taken many months to extract the acknowledgment which has at last appeared that no authentic news whatever is procurable from S. Petersburg or Tokio. The secret of the negotiations has been admirably kept from the beginning. We have known when notes were received but not a word of their contents. At the moment we are only sure that the Russian note has been yet further delayed, though it is more than a week since the critical meeting was held in S. Petersburg. There is hardly a diplomatic precedent for such silent procrastination; and one has difficulty in believing, however great the interval between Admiral Alexeieff and the Tsar, that negotiations would not have been as prompt on one side as the other but for strategic reasons. The irritation produced in Japan by the continued suspension of the reply will soon more than counterbalance any pacific intentions which might have furthered the delay. The particular wording of the answer to suit either the Tsar or Japanese susceptibilities cannot after all affect the final issue. Russian policy has been too constant and is based on too steadfast principles to allow of any temporary alteration. The map proclaims her diplomatic position.

The movements of ships of war and armies cannot be kept as secret as the discussions of Cabinets, but no country has the power of making her preparations with such a degree of secrecy as Russia. It is said that she has 360,000 troops in the Far East, but troops can pour along the Siberian Railway without the possibility of computation by the busiest correspondent. Port Arthur is a little more nearly under the observation of outsiders, and Port Arthur must be the centre of operations. On Wednesday the Russian fleet sailed from there to an unknown destination; and the inference was that hostilities had actually begun; but a telegram states that the fleet has returned though it had not entered the harbour. A Japanese fleet of sixty ships is reported to be cruising off Wei-hai-Wei. This beginning of definite movements has its parallel in the movement of troops towards the Yalu. Even the per-

sistent optimism in Berlin and S. Petersburg has given way. Everywhere war is thought inevitable.

Parliament has met in a mood of unusual excitement. The usual schoolboyish greetings and questions, the curiosity about the performances of movers and seconders of the Address, and their uniforms, were heightened on this occasion by some strong tension, which even the absence of the Prime Minister did not relax. It was not the immediate performance that was mainly in the minds of members, or the protagonist's illness would have taken all life out of the House. A redeeming feature in a not very pleasant opening to a session was the obvious sincerity of the universal sympathy with Mr. Balfour. The regrets were spontaneous, and it was more regret that the Prime Minister was at home ill than that he was not there to entertain them.

It is a pity that something of this good feeling could not find its way into the Opposition's treatment of Mr. Austen Chamberlain. But it was all used up on Mr. Balfour. Mr. Austen Chamberlain was placed in a nervous and extremely difficult position, in fact precisely in the position which invariably commands more than ordinary courtesy from those who are endowed with any sense of chivalry or even a more common generosity. That was not at all the Opposition view, who, prominent and obscure, old and young alike, lost no opportunity by interruption and unmannerly demonstration to aggravate the Chancellor of the Exchequer's difficulties: it was their pretty way of getting at the father through the son. The sensation of the debate on the Address occurred on Friday afternoon. Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman alleged that at an interview he had with Mr. Chamberlain in June 1899 Mr. Chamberlain sought to procure the consent of the Opposition to the despatch of troops to South Africa as part of a "game of bluff". Mr. Chamberlain denied the use of the word "bluff", and disputed the interpretation of a correspondence which afterwards took place.

Really it is unpleasant to think what the Continentals will feel about the unseemly crush at the Lansdowne House reception. These things after all are ceremonies, and ceremonies demand a certain amount of form and dignified order. Order in this case was, to many at any rate, merely one long scuffle; a scuffle in which hats were lost and bruises gained. As a First Secretary remarked, "Ce n'était pas une soirée officielle mais une bousculade". It is not a very complimentary reception to the representatives of foreign countries. One cannot wonder that the presence of certain ambassadors was not observed. Not that this, unfortunately,

is any new thing at English official receptions. Downing Street was much in the same plight last year. Democracy may be a hard taskmaster, but if it is necessary that all and sundry be asked, could not the crowd be spread over more than one evening? At any rate in the Coronation year the India Office succeeded in entertaining a vast number, of whom we have heard of no one who lost his hat or his temper.

Though the King's Speech contained no announcement either weighty or surprising, it was distinguished from past speeches by a new note, due partly to the personal intention of the King partly to a wider influence of the time. As a rule the heads of the speech may be anticipated with some accuracy. Did anyone's prophetic instinct tell them on this occasion that the emphasis of the Speech would be on the importance of growing cotton within the Empire and of the preferential tariff granted by New Zealand? In this transference of emphasis from home affairs and foreign affairs, so labelled, to details in themselves small concerning the welfare of the Empire is a satisfactory sign that politics are beginning to lose the implicit parochialism from which only a crisis or individual eloquence has in the past temporarily raised them. One does not yet accuse the House of Commons of possessing or accepting political imagination: but perhaps it is on the way to the recognition of the fact that England has expanded into an organism neither insular nor continental.

In the Lords the debate on the Address was remarkable only for the diplomatic "howler" of Lord Spencer in urging the Government to press its offers of mediation on the two Eastern Powers. If statesmen in office were to permit this form of "conciliation with a brick" to be publicly urged at a crisis in the affairs of two friendly nations, there would soon be an end of that international good feeling which, apart from this gauche recommendation, Lord Spencer no doubt desires to promote. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman had sufficient endowment of political tact to avoid reference to Japan and Russia. It is a pity he had not equal tact to preserve silence as to Tibet and Somaliland where his obvious ignorance of the facts marred a clever speech. He might also have scored a point by exposing the lameness of the reference to the Alaska judgment in the King's Speech which we have no doubt will sensibly aggravate colonial feeling. The regret is weak and formal and the acceptance suggests the relief of the Government in having rid themselves peaceably of a cause of friction with the United States. We must repeat what is being repeated all over Canada, that a peaceable issue out of all immediate troubles can always be achieved by surrender. Why does the Government trouble itself about arbitration at all, if all it wants is to end a dispute at any price? Why not get rid of future as well as immediate friction by removing, according to Mr. Goldwin Smith's advice, the whole boundary, entirely absurd on geographical grounds, that lies between Canada and the country too commonly known, tout court, as "America"?

Mr. Robson's amendment on the South African War was a tactical error. The criticism, such as it was, and the bitterness, which was great, were directed against the whole of the Ministry of three years ago and may reasonably be resented as much by those who have recently resigned as by the rest. A better method of alienating their new allies could not have been designed and it will now require an access of Free Food enthusiasm to make the Duke of Devonshire and the rest feel comfortable under the new allegiance. Did Mr. Robson's fear of the effect of a protective tariff on his constituency so stimulate his bitterness that the leader of the Opposition could not repress it for motives of mere strategy? It was not likely that Mr. Robson, in his ludicrous pose as a war critic, could make any impact on the Government defended by Mr. Chamberlain, who without such affectation and by candid admission of mistakes restored at once the accepted view. Undoubtedly from the standpoint of an outside critic preparations were inadequate, though in a democratic Government the difficulty of squaring preparation for war with peaceful intention is almost insuperable.

The Blue Book published on Wednesday relating to the two new African colonies sums up the financial straits of the Transvaal with most uncompromising directness. The gist of the matter is contained in a despatch, dated December 28, from Lord Milner to Mr. Lyttelton. "The immediate prospect is very bad" is his summary of the position. He anticipates a deficit of £350,000 on the intercolonial budgets, though the Orange River Colony will show a balance. It is agreed that the payment of the war contribution shall be postponed and economies are suggested. The cause of the financial stagnation, apart from the natural disintegration of war, is due wholly to the labour difficulty. This is Lord Milner's and Mr. Lyttelton's opinion, and the belief of a large majority of the inhabitants. In face of convinced unanimity one has no patience to trouble with the objections, detailed under many heads, which the Cape Government has thought fit again to formulate and to forward to the Imperial Government. Nor in the case of the Cape can we believe that the demurrers are as honest as those coming from Mr. Seddon and Mr. Deakin, though their reasons show better information. To postpone the labour question longer is to accept bankruptcy; and not even the jealous humanitarian will deny that the sufferings of national poverty are fit to be weighed against the academic prejudices of outsiders.

A distinct improvement in the situation in South-West Africa has been effected during the week. Windhoek and Okahanja were relieved on the Emperor William's birthday after sharp fighting in which the German loss was happily slight. The German forces are so slender that every man is of the utmost value. The Hereros have retreated to the Geti Mountains carrying off with them the cattle they had looted. In the South, Colonel Leutwein's success against the Bondelzwarts has been complete. He is therefore free now to deal with the Hereros who will probably prove of tougher fibre. Colonel Leutwein showed his consciousness of the gravity of the position by embarking at Port Nolloth for Swakopmund where he is due to-day, instead of returning overland. As the first of the relief drafts from Germany arrived this week, and others will arrive in the course of next week, the Governor should be able to make the capital and the railway to the sea secure, but the task of restoring order and reducing the Hereros is likely to be a long and costly business throwing the larger part of Damaraland into confusion.

The report of the War Office reconstitution committee advocates some far-reaching changes. A new permanent department is to be attached to the Defence Committee, consisting of representatives of the Admiralty, War Office, India and perhaps of the colonies who will assist the secretary, the whole being under the supervision of the Prime Minister. The War Office itself is to be reconstructed. The War Secretary is to be placed on the same footing as the First Lord of the Admiralty. He will be the head of an army council; and in place of the existing War Office chiefs, four military members of the council will be created, the remaining members consisting of the Parliamentary Under Secretary and the Financial Secretary, and under the latter six all the work of the War Office is to be grouped. Finally the Commandership-in-Chief is to be abolished; and an Inspector-General of the Forces—who will be detached from the War Office—established in his place.

The committee insist that the men who are to work the new scheme shall be free from the handicap of association with the old; and we may hope that this will exclude the transference of the Commander-in-Chief to this post. Lord Roberts has no qualification for the new work. He has done his work; he has won every honour and gained every reward that the service has to bestow and it is not to be expected that he should keep that mood of vigorous watchfulness which is essential in an overseer. He should never have been appointed Commander-in-Chief. Rest would have been a better gift than a new honour which, as his period at the War Office has shown, he has not been able to support without loss of credit even if he had possessed

the administrative capacity. It must be a task of essential difficulty to find a man, when members of the old organisation are excluded, who shall have the reputation and ability to exercise the new superiority thrust upon him. The Duke of Connaught seems to us the one man in whom the due ability and energy are united with the personal weight that such a position demands.

A part of the object of the British Empire League is already attained when an eminent member of the Liberal party proposes such a resolution as was unanimously adopted at Monday's meeting. No party now talks of evading Imperial responsibilities, and Mr. Asquith, in paying his compliments to Canada, perhaps a little overdid his part or at least gave the suggestion that Sir Frederick Borden's presence at the one meeting of the Imperial Defence Committee represented established progress in the co-ordination of Imperial defence. But if all parties have the imagination to recognise, with Mr. Asquith, the potential significance of the presence of the Canadian Minister of Militia at the Committee of Imperial Defence in London, and Australia and New Zealand follow the Canadian example, the event may mark the beginning of a new epoch in the Empire's appreciation of its own unity. It is perhaps not generally understood how much of this advance is due to the imaginative energy of Sir Frederick Borden himself.

The meeting of the Liberal-Unionist Council summoned by Mr. Chamberlain was singularly peaceable. Mr. Chamberlain himself was content to make the one point that Home Rule which Unionists were christened to resist is still a menace. A few hours after Mr. Chamberlain was making his point Mr. Redmond, with a fervour of eloquence which "cram repetition" does nothing to assuage, was impressing on the House of Commons the unaltered determination of the Nationalists to press for Home Rule. With two or three dissentients Mr. Chamberlain's point was supported, and the majority represents roughly two-thirds of the total membership. Mr. Chamberlain spoke with some humorous asperity of the organisation of the association being "too aristocratic". He meant no doubt that while sixty-three of the eighty-six who voted for his resolution represented Unionist associations, the minority who absented themselves contained an undue proportion of officials. How far Mr. Chamberlain's success means a real addition to his strength is not easy to say. We doubt whether the Liberal-Unionist organisation is of much effect, or seriously modifies the distribution of parties. Doubtless the argument, that while Home Rule is still a policy the reason of the organisation remains, is technically unanswerable. All the same we rather feel for the Unionist Free Trader who may have to vote either for a Home Rule Government or a Protectionist.

When we remarked last week on the grace with which the Prime Minister will let down the inconvenient friend, we had no idea we were to have immediately a fresh illustration of this. Once more Mr. Wanklyn M.P. has offered up himself devotedly. He wrote a very long letter to Mr. Balfour on the subject of Bradford goods and America: Mr. Balfour replied in a few lines, thanking Mr. Wanklyn for setting forth his—Mr. Wanklyn's—views: this is grace with a touch of the saturnine in it. Bent on still more self-humiliation, Mr. Wanklyn sent the correspondence to the "Times"—at least it appears there, and we don't suppose that Mr. Balfour sent it. Whereupon the "Times" prints Mr. Wanklyn's very long letter with Mr. Balfour's few lines after it, and gives this heading to the whole: "Letter from Mr. Balfour." We quite see of course that this talk about Bradford and Mr. Balfour's illustration was growing tiresome: the small fly on the pane was beginning to loom like the black ox on the distant plain: but surely a delicate hint from the Prime Minister at an earlier stage would have served the purpose better.

Mr. Melville Portal, who died the other day, was for more than half a century a striking figure in local

government. He made a scientific study of county business and management. There probably never was a more efficient chairman of Quarter Sessions than Mr. Portal, and so struck were several foreign countries by his methods that they actually sent a commission over to England expressly to report on the subject. The "Hampshire Observer", which has an interesting article on Mr. Portal, reminds us that, assisted by Lord Carnarvon, he revolutionised the whole system of the county gaol; a few months later Sir George Grey, the Home Secretary, brought in a bill which embodied every change and regulation which Mr. Portal and Lord Carnarvon had made, and applied them to the whole country. Fifty-nine years ago Mr. Portal was the successful Protectionist candidate for North Hampshire. He was succeeded by Mr. Bramston Beach. It was a time of country gentlemen of the best type.

Another public man has died, Mr. Pickard M.P. for Barnsley, a tough member of the Burt and Broadhurst school of Labour M.P.'s. He was rather unfashionable. He never startled Mr. Speaker Peel by knickerbockers or a deer-stalker in the Chamber, and he was not lionised on the strength of a breezy manner and a sailor-like serge suit, or a grand north-country burr. He might perhaps be described as a fine old English Labour M.P. Mr. Pickard will be largely remembered at the House for his activity in regard to the Eight Hours Bill, and his opposition to the sliding scale, which he detested. He was a strong Radical like Mr. Fenwick. Mr. Pickard was not silver-tongued, and his way was not engaging or charming, but everybody respected him as an entirely honest and fearless fighter.

We sympathise frankly with the Irish members in their disappointment that no Government Bill dealing with the University question in Ireland will be introduced this session. We can affect no surprise that their disappointment was expressed in terms of heated indignation. It is not true to say that the Conservative party has ever been formally pledged to take up the matter, nor is it fair to suggest that either Mr. Balfour or Mr. Wyndham has gone back on his word. But it would be absurd to expect too nice a diagnosis of the position from men suffering from a grave injustice, which the best men amongst their political opponents, with whom the remedy lies, have always admitted. Then precisely the few, whose experience of Ireland enables them to judge, including the Prime Minister himself, iterate on every relevant occasion their strong desire to deal with the question without delay. And yet nothing is done! We are very sure that English nonconformists in so tantalising a position would give way to far stronger language than did the Irish members in the House.

Nor can we pretend that Mr. Wyndham's plea that the University question cannot be touched so long as certain of the Unionists choose to call it a matter of conscience is at all convincing. The Public Worship Regulation Act was a matter of conscience to many Conservatives in the House and many more without. At any rate it nearly resulted, we have always heard, in Lord Salisbury's resignation. The Kenyon-Slaney clause was a matter of conscience to every man who voted against it last session. But they are less noisy and so less considered than the Austin Taylors and Sloans and Saundersons. The truth is that nothing but the prejudice, fortified by ignorance, of a section of Unionists now stands in the way of the University question being settled in Ireland. If Mr. Balfour and Mr. Wyndham do not mean to touch it until they have the support of that brigade, they will never touch it at all. Necessarily, for these people's case is that nothing must be done which will benefit Roman Catholics. To treat such as intelligent beings to be argued with is idle. But they are a very small portion of the people of England, who, when a case is put fairly before them, have a very good sense of justice. The English people would recognise at once the unfairness of putting Irish Roman Catholics to a choice between compromising their faith or impairing their education. It is a capital injustice; and we do not

understand how any honest Englishman can be quite happy about Ireland until it is corrected.

The Attorney-General's statement in the House of Commons on Tuesday explains clearly the grounds on which he refused to allow a public prosecution in the Whitaker Wright case. Apparently he still holds that the intent to defraud under the sections of the Larceny Act is not proved by misrepresentations made with the object of saving a concern. This is one of the points which it was expected would be raised after the trial. In regard to the balance sheet of 1899 the Attorney-General holds that the evidence laid before him was very weak on the fact of misrepresentation. At the trial other evidence than had been laid before the Attorney-General was stated to have been procured. He still holds that notwithstanding the result of the Wright trial it is necessary that there should be legislation requiring absolute veracity in statements made by officials of a company, apart altogether from the question of intent to deceive and defraud. In regard to the subject of corners and "rigging" he does not venture to advise legislation, however desirable from the point of view of commercial morality: and if it is undertaken it must only be after full inquiry by commercial men and lawyers. Altogether the statement amounts to this that if the Attorney-General had to advise again, he would still in spite of the result of the trial do what he did at first: even though now the Government has decided to pay the expenses of the prosecution.

In the "Arsenic in Beer Case" the facts run something like the "House that Jack Built". It was Nicholsons who supplied the acid with which Bostocks made brewing sugar, which was supplied to brewers who brewed the beer, which went to the publicans who sold it to the public, who drank it and died from arsenic poisoning. The brewers obtained large damages from Bostocks; Bostocks in the action tried by Mr. Justice Bruce claimed to be compensated from Nicholsons for their losses which had driven them into liquidation; and they obtained a decision in their favour. Until 1900 Bostocks always analysed Nicholson's acid and found it pure; but in that very year Nicholsons began to send an unpurified acid which they said they were not wrong in doing under the contract; and if Bostocks wanted to use acid for making glucose they were bound to analyse it. The Judge held that Nicholsons had through forgetfulness failed to observe their contract which was to send "brimstone" acid, a pure non-arsenical product. This entitled Bostocks to damages; but it does not settle the larger question on whom lies the responsibility towards the public. The pecuniary interests have been settled; but what of the remedies for the injury done to the public health?

One of the several reasons for regret at the Prime Minister's absence from the House of Commons on the first day of the session is that it has given people the opportunity to remark that the House of Commons without its leader is like "Hamlet" without the principal player. A saying of Scipio's, it was long ago remarked, grew stale and vulgar after seventeen hundred years of use. It is terrible to think that the "Hamlet" tag may still have centuries of service before it. There are moments when a man may wish that "Hamlet" had not been written. You turn from the best evening paper where the "Hamlet" tag is on Tuesday to the leading morning paper where it figures on Wednesday. These out-worn tags are a pest even to the least fastidious. A clean sweep should be made of them. Among the first to go should be Captain Cuttle's "when found make a note of"; next, "which, as Mr. Kipling would say, is another story"; third, "Hamlet" without the principal player". This is our selection, but no doubt there are many others equally inane, of which the language would be well rid. We will gladly send a copy of the SATURDAY REVIEW free for one year to the correspondent who sends in what we judge to be the best selection of three tags of the kind which ought to be used no longer.

MR. BALFOUR'S OPPORTUNITY.

THERE is one set-off to the public misfortune of the Prime Minister's enforced absence from the House this week. The cause of his absence is all loss — of all men Mr. Balfour at this moment may rightly pray for immunity from bodily weakness—but the fact may yet work for some good. The week's retirement will enable Mr. Balfour further to review the position in Parliament and in the country, the position of the fiscal movement and of his party in relation to it. The events of this week may affect the pronouncement he or in any case the Government will have to make on the amendment Mr. Morley refuses to put off. For ourselves we think the Opposition are justified in asking for a plainer and more comprehensive statement of the present position than has yet been given to the country. Not that Mr. Balfour's particular attitude for the moment has been inadequately explained, but the public is not assured of its finality. It has not the appearance, hardly the logical intention, of anything more than a stop-gap arrangement. We earnestly hope that the Prime Minister will see his way to making the position clear by reducing it to a single issue, which Parliament and public can rightly appreciate, by formally adopting the policy of preferential trade as a basis for imperial consolidation.

At present the Unionist forces are encamped in a morass where there is no solid footing; whither they have been led by a strategy which, plausible though it was in its inception, is every day being shown by events to have been mistaken. We cannot advance and we are attacked at a disadvantage by all the forces of the free importers because we have not gone straight for our true objective. When Mr. Balfour laid down his plan of compromise he made it plain enough to everybody but the Duke of Devonshire, that in his opinion the country ought to adopt the policy of preferential tariffs; and he never disguised the fact that his feelings were in sympathy with Mr. Chamberlain's aims. That is the position of the Government to-day as appears by Mr. Austen Chamberlain's speech on Tuesday. A compromise is often the best result of wisdom; but a compromise that has no success has no reason for its continuance. The position of parties now is the best answer to the question whether Mr. Balfour's compromise has succeeded or not. We see its failure in the Ayr election where a Conservative seat was lost by the Unionist candidate attempting to stand on the compromise. Mr. Morley's proposed amendment to the Address states a fact which is indisputable, that the present attitude of ministers enhances the difficulties of the situation in regard to the fiscal controversy; and it raises a clear issue which demands a settlement far more in the interests of the Government than of the Opposition. It is the Government that is losing strength by continuing in its unreal position. The electors do not understand it. Finesse in Parliament has an intellectual attraction for experts in the game; but in the country, if a Government is to win, it must make itself "understood of the people". They see one man able, determined, full of the fire of conscientious conviction, and they ask where are the members of the Government who profess that they have the same objects at heart as himself? They are not in the field: Mr. Balfour is holding them back; and the members of the Government avowedly in sympathy with Mr. Chamberlain are giving no aid to the cause in which they believe. The compromise has failed to retain the leader of the Liberal-Unionists and through him to obtain the support of the rank and file of the Duke's section; while the man who has secured the Liberal-Unionist organisation is Mr. Chamberlain, who, in defiance of Liberal-Unionist magnates, advocated a policy which the Government did not adopt for fear of these very people.

The issue of imperial preferential tariffs is what the country cares about. What chance is there of converting the country unless the great body of non-partisan electors sees that the Government is in earnest in advocating a policy to which up to the present they have only accorded a platonic approval? They may be influenced

by Mr. Chamberlain, they may admire his abilities and admit there "must be something in" a conception which stimulates so much fervour and calls forth such energy. But Mr. Chamberlain is only one man; and there comes the reflection, what influence does this ideal, this creation of a united empire by a specified method, exert on the minds of the men who actually govern the country? What must be the inference when they see that so far as they can judge by its actions the Government has deliberately stood aside and left the ideal to take its chance? An intimation by Mr. Balfour that the Government intends to have done with its temporising policy would, we are sure, be of immense service in the constituencies. As to its effect on the present situation in Parliament we doubt if the risks of defeat would be substantially increased by such an intimation. The fiscal question dominates all politics and men will vote as they feel on that, whatever becomes of anything else. Members who would in ordinary times support the Government would, as we ourselves should, regret sincerely enough that the Government should not carry out its programme of army reform and of legislation as to aliens and licensing and other measures mentioned in the King's Speech; but regard for those questions will square none who is against the Government fiscally. Those who have made up their minds to abstain from voting with the Government because it is in favour of what we have to call Mr. Chamberlain's policy until the Government formally makes it its own, could not do more than abstain after Mr. Balfour's statement. We do not believe in the possibility of keeping the Free Fooders, for the plain reason that they will not be satisfied with Mr. Balfour merely refraining from formal adoption of Mr. Chamberlain's policy; they will require a declaration of hostility to it. It is better on all counts that we should know our enemies. Those who are not with us must be against us.

Such a statement by Mr. Balfour need not involve the dissolution of Parliament. It would not be a breach of any engagement that no proposals founded on Mr. Chamberlain's policy shall be made in the present Parliament. But if it did involve risks of dissolution, they would be worth incurring for the sake of the moral and educative effect on the country. It would disembarass the minds of the electors from a perplexity which we believe has greatly impeded the progress of the new ideas. The free importers have put before them a plain issue of simple opposition to all proposed changes of the tariff system. The Government has bewildered the elector with alternative issues.

THE POSITION OF PARTIES.

THE weakness of a Government is the opportunity of an Opposition, and the natural embarrassment of the Ministerialists on the opening day of the session seemed to act like champagne upon Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's usually phlegmatic temperament. Indeed the situation was sufficiently piquant and pregnant with possible developments to excite the most languid partisans. Mr. Chamberlain appeared on the third bench from the floor below the gangway, sitting next to Mr. Chaplin, while on the bench below him were to be found Mr. Ritchie and Lord George Hamilton. Perched aloft behind the Treasury bench, but above the gangway, might be discerned the figure of Sir Michael Hicks Beach. "Pour comble de malheur", the Prime Minister was confined to his room by influenza, and Mr. Akers-Douglas sat opposite the box. Well might the leader of the Opposition exclaim, with a pleasantry that was thoroughly relished by the House of Commons, "I see familiar faces in strange places, and I see strange faces in familiar places". In all seriousness the position of the Government is critical at this moment and it is the opinion of several experienced parliamentarians, in whom the wish is by no means father to the thought, that unless Mr. Balfour succeeds in pulling his followers together next week, his Administration may be out by Easter. It of course often happens in parliamentary, as in military, warfare that a weak opening is retrieved by brilliant generalship, and that initial defeats are wiped out by bringing

up belated reinforcements. But it will require all the Prime Minister's tact and popularity to obliterate the impression of the past week. For if there is one thing which the House of Commons, irrespective of party, will not stand for long it is a Government which cannot hold its own in debate. It is a curious proof of the practical and unimaginative temper of Englishmen that the business of managing the House of Commons is regarded by them as more important than the policy of the Cabinet. It is easier for a strong Government to carry a bad policy than for a weak Government to carry a good policy. For abstract argument the majority of Britons have no particular aptitude: but they can all see at a glance whether a set of managers make themselves ridiculous, and when they cease to command respect. To a Government which cannot put down its opponents by making better speeches than they, or at least as good, no quarter is ever shown by the House of Commons, even its own followers turning against it in contempt. If it is kept in office for weeks or months it is merely in order that the necessary preparations for a general election may be made. Mr. Balfour's Administration has, for the moment at all events, lost prestige; partly because the Prime Minister is not there to lead, and partly because four of the ablest and most experienced members of the Cabinet have left it. It is not the fault of Mr. Akers-Douglas or Mr. Austen Chamberlain that neither of them can lead the House of Commons. The Home Secretary, to put it shortly, has not the ability, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer has not the experience for a task which has taxed to the utmost the courage and genius of our greatest statesmen. Whether Mr. Austen Chamberlain has the brains and the character to lead a political party, time alone can show: it is certain that he has been prematurely moved on to his present position. It is no wonder that he was nervous and ineffective in following Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman on Tuesday. To have been a member of Parliament for fifteen out of forty years of life is not a long enough apprenticeship for a post from which the oldest and boldest politicians have shrunk in dismay. Even the graceful rhetoric of Mr. Wyndham failed to restore the spirits or retrieve the prestige of the Government. And now what is to be done? and what is going to happen?

In this article we are not concerned with the merits of this or that policy, we wish only to survey as dispassionately as may be the position of the various parties in the House of Commons, which we take to be the Irish Nationalists, the Liberal-Unionists, the Radicals, and the Conservatives. The Irish party is pursuing its consistent policy of endeavouring to hold the scales of power between the other two parties, and, if successful, of selling their votes to the highest bidder. It may be remembered that Mr. Parnell exactly succeeded in this attempt, for in 1885 the Irish Nationalists could give either Mr. Gladstone or Lord Salisbury a majority. The first Home Rule Bill was the result. We may take it that Mr. John Redmond's speech on Wednesday was a conventional demonstration. The Irish know very well that if the Radicals promised them a Home Rule Bill the House of Lords would reject it. Not that the Radicals disdain to cast the Home Rule fly over the Irish water, for Sir Robert Reid reaffirmed his adherence to the principle of a separate legislature. But Mr. Redmond and his friends are perfectly aware that it is a far cry from a speech in Opposition to an Act of Parliament, and that for the time being at all events Home Rule is without the range of practical politics. On the other hand, the Irish are very anxious to get amendments of the Land Act and an Irish University Bill. They calculate that they are more likely to get amendments of the Land Act quickly through the House of Lords by keeping Mr. Wyndham at the Irish Office than by placing a stranger there. As for a Catholic university, the Irish leaders know that such a demand could not possibly be granted by a Radical government, on account of the large number of dissenters in their party. There are certain Evangelical Churchmen and Orangemen, it is true, in the Conservative party who object strongly to the

endowment of a Roman Catholic university, or college: but we doubt whether the majority of Unionists have strong views on the subject, and Mr. Wyndham has said very properly that he regards it as an educational, not a religious, question. On the whole, therefore, and looking at it from the point of view of political bargaining, we believe that the Irish vote at the polls will be cast for the Government, though it is quite possible the Irish members may vote against the Ministry in the House of Commons for some reason of strategy.

The position of the Liberal-Unionist is perhaps the most interesting. Mr. Chamberlain has apparently scored off the Duke of Devonshire, for the Liberal-Unionist Council resolved that "the existence of the Central Liberal-Unionist organisation should be maintained". It is difficult to imagine such a body passing any other resolution, which is merely a vote of confidence in themselves. But it is therefore not easy to gauge the value of Mr. Chamberlain's triumph, which may be more apparent than real. An undoubted fact is that the Duke of Devonshire has left the association, and the Duke's followers are not the less numerous or the less influential because they do not attend meetings and make speeches. The Duke of Devonshire has gone farther. He met Lord Rosebery at dinner on Thursday, and, as we foreshadowed in this REVIEW two months ago, it is more than probable that he will co-operate with Lord Rosebery in opposing Mr. Chamberlain and the present Government. Certain it is that the Duke of Devonshire has informally advised his friends either to vote for Mr. Morley's amendment, or to abstain from voting. It is therefore not too much to say that the old Liberal-Unionist party is now broken up into the supporters of Mr. Chamberlain and those of the Duke of Devonshire. That the Radicals will welcome the assistance of the Duke of Devonshire and his tail in ousting the Government from office goes without saying. Though the Whiggism of Devonshire House is not exactly congenial to Mr. Lloyd George and the Radicals below the gangway they are shrewd enough to use the Duke "pro hac vice", with a mental reservation to get rid of him as soon as he has served their purpose. And what of the Conservatives, the old centre party, so strangely transformed by recent events? The strength of the Conservative party depends a good deal upon the strength or weakness of those who are called Conservative free fooders. Their action in turn will depend upon the Prime Minister's speech next week. If Mr. Balfour repudiates the principle of taxing corn, except for revenue, the free fooders will support the Government. But if Mr. Balfour should say that the time for adopting Mr. Chamberlain's policy has not arrived, but dally with, as they would say, or embrace the principle, then the free fooders will vote for Mr. Morley or walk out. In other words their support cannot be counted on. It is estimated that the number of these gentlemen is twenty-eight. The position therefore is this. The Government may find arrayed against them the regular Radical Opposition, the Devonshire Whigs, the Conservative free fooders, and possibly the Irish Nationalists. Can they stand against such a combination? Everything now depends on the Prime Minister. Mr. Balfour, and he alone, can defeat it.

WAR POLICY: NEW FACES OTHER MINDS.

A REPORT which creates a new department, which reconstructs the War Office on Admiralty lines, and which abolishes the post of Commander-in-Chief, should be sufficiently drastic to satisfy the most ardent reformer. The members of the Committee have refused to be tied down by the ordinary rules which hamper such bodies, and have managed, by the ingenious device of a covering letter, to outstrip their terms of reference. They are accomplishing their task with commendable rapidity, and we can only hope that they have not been unduly hasty. Occasional change is of course desirable, and few will deny that it was needed in this instance. But, though they have gone far in some ways, they hardly appear to have gone

quite far enough in others. We sincerely hope, however, that the changes now advocated will be final. After the recent upheavals of a great war and a superabundance of new schemes, rest is above all things necessary for our military system. There can be no doubt that the new plan, looked at as a whole, makes for good.

The creation of a continuous staff to assist the Defence Committee is an innovation of considerable importance, which marks a further stage in the new principle that this vitally important subject should be scientifically considered by those who rule the country. It would doubtless have been more satisfactory if someone with more leisure than a Prime Minister could have been chairman of the Defence Committee. But the only method of insuring that the decisions of that body should carry sufficient weight with the Treasury—whose position as regards the services has of late become unduly prominent—is that the Prime Minister himself should preside. The idea of a continuous staff is sound. But the present proposals do not go far enough. It is of course vital that a really effective link should be established between home and Indian policy. But it seems doubtful whether this result will be attained by the appointment of two comparatively junior officers to represent India on the permanent staff. It is difficult to see how they can carry weight; though it would be different if a really authoritative representative of India were appointed to sit on the Committee. Its effect generally must be to decrease the influence of the intelligence departments. Yet the drift of all recent service criticism has been the necessity of increasing their importance. We fail altogether to follow the Committee when they compare their new department to the German General Staff, which consists of about 250 officers; whose duties comprise the study of foreign armies, the preparation of military maps, the compilation of military histories, schemes for offensive and defensive operations, plans for mobilisation, the supervision of the Staff College and the higher education and selection of staff officers. The Committee cannot surely contemplate that the small permanent nucleus should undertake work of so voluminous and varied a description. But if they do not, the comparison is inappropriate.

Their matured plan for the distribution of the higher administrative duties of the War Office is to be issued later. So at present it is impossible to criticise in detail their proposals on this point. They tell us that under the existing system no proper distinction is drawn between policy and routine, and with this we agree. They propose to place the War Secretary in the same position as the Admiralty First Lord; to create an army council of seven members, four military and three civil; and to redistribute the business of the War Office between them. But it is not clear whether the military members are actually to work at the details of the departments grouped under them; or whether they are merely to exercise a general supervision, and represent them on the council. In any case, of the four military members the first becomes a kind of glorified Director-General of Mobilisation and Intelligence, with the duties, now assigned to the Director of Military Education and Training, added. The second deals with recruiting, pay, discipline, rewards, peace regulations, and, we presume, personnel. Consequently he becomes a kind of modified adjutant-general, who apparently has placed under him in addition some of the work performed by the civil and "regulation" branch (now known as C 1). The third deals with clothing, remounts, transport and supply. So he virtually becomes the counterpart of the Quartermaster-General, with the clothing work of the Director-General of Ordnance added. The fourth deals with armaments and fortifications, the present work of the Inspector-General of Fortifications, and part of that of the Director-General of Ordnance. The civil members are the Secretary of State, in whom, presumably, sole parliamentary responsibility will be vested; the Financial Secretary, whose position remains unchanged; and the parliamentary Under-Secretary, who is charged with all civil business which is not financial, presumably legislation, regulations and committees, parliamentary business and the registry of letters and telegrams.

It is noticeable that in this distribution of duties, the Committee have omitted altogether to dispose of the important department of the Director-General of Army Medical Services. Thus four military chiefs are substituted for six; and, though we wish the new plan every success, we are inclined to doubt whether the Committee have quite realised the mass and complexity of the work which has to be done. To carry out this plan, they urge that all the present supreme military chiefs must be changed; and though, as a general principle, new men should go with new plans, we confess that we view with some anxiety the prospect of an entirely new set of men, with no experience in most cases of administration on a large scale, attempting to carry through this thing. But it is important to know how retrospective is to be the disqualification of having been at the War Office. If they mean that the new occupants are never to have held any high posts there, it will be exceedingly difficult to find suitable men. It is true that some of the existing chiefs could well be spared. But such sweeping measures must entail the loss of some whom it will be difficult to replace. For instance the first military member should possess intellectual qualifications of a peculiar kind; and in this connexion we cannot help thinking that the loss of Sir William Nicholson will be serious. The Secretary to the Army Council is to be the permanent Under-Secretary, an appointment which will unquestionably lower his status, and tend to modify the present arrangement by which he is held to be the man to carry on business during an interregnum of Secretaries of State.

We view with little regret the disappearance of the Commandership-in-Chief. The post has become an anomaly, which does not at present possess the confidence of the army or its headquarter staff. Some time back we stated our objections to an Inspector-General of the Forces, who will be a dignified official rushing about the country conducting a number of superficial inspections of troops, and will also be continually visiting fortresses and hospitals of which he probably knows little, and arsenals of which he knows less. The South African War showed that the principal defect in our war preparations was the inadequacy of reserves of stores. No number of visits to arsenals or stores can remedy this, since no one outside the Ordnance Department could possibly say what is, or what is not, sufficient, or even what actually exists. As the Admiralty plan is being followed so closely, it might have been adopted completely. There is no inspector-general of the navy; and just now there is less need than ever for one in the army. One of the most satisfactory features of the report is the plea for giving general officers greater power and responsibility. These presumably must be Army Corps commanders. But if these officers are competent to hold such posts, they must be competent and sufficiently detached from the details of their commands to inspect effectually—except as regards those services which already have inspectors. Again, we attach little importance to inspections made by a supreme official, for the simple reason that they must necessarily be extremely superficial. Last year a great improvement was noticeable in the manoeuvres as regards all ranks. But this was in no way due to the Commander-in-Chief's various hasty visits to Aldershot and Salisbury. It was solely due to the two army corps commanders. It is rumoured that Lord Roberts is to be appointed Inspector-General. But if this is done his personal party will still remain well organised, whilst he himself will still control the Selection Board. The first holder of the Inspector-Generalship will require an unusual amount of tact and prestige to avoid friction with the War Office whilst the new system is being inaugurated. Lord Roberts as censor, being merely part of the old machine furnished up under a new name, will necessarily set up the maximum of friction which he will not have either the tact to smooth away or the strength to disregard. The one person who conspicuously possesses the necessary qualifications for the post is the Duke of Connaught.

OXFORD THEOLOGY AND THE CHURCH.

OXFORD is again in spiritual tribulation, it may be for the last time. She was supposed to have entered already into an Undine-like freedom from intensity, an un-souled ataraxia, never again to be ruffled by theological controversy. But now all of a sudden arises a polemic of the kind in which the Puseys and Denisons, Stanleys and Jeunes of an elder day used greatly to clash with broadsheet and pamphlet at the head of eager hosts. The Honour Theology School is the most important thing retained by the Church of England in Oxford, and without it it would be impossible for her to take any of her ordinands direct from the University. The school is officially stamped as being under the Church's influence by the statutory provision that the examiners shall be "in Priest's Orders". On Monday last the Hebdomadal Council acceded to a petition praying for the removal of this provision, and a new statute will be laid before Congregation. As the petition was entirely clerical Congregation has every excuse for adopting the change. Then will come the appeal to the larger Oxford, and, unless some means can be found of avoiding an always exasperating referendum, the streets of Oxford will one March day be black with town and country clergy and top-hatted London laymen thronging to the Sheldonian for a vast Convocation "totius Universitatis". This is a question on which every M.A. is morally entitled to a voice; but when it arose in a tentative form twenty years ago, on Jowett's nomination of Mr., now Dr., Horton to examine in Pass Divinity, the overwhelming negative which that *ballon d'essai* encountered was certainly not carried by "country parsons".

We shall avoid throwing oil on these waves; but as lay Churchmen we must resolutely oppose this highly significant change. It is well known that many of the clerical signatures to the petition to Council were appended under a misapprehension. It would not be England, and still less would it be Oxford, if issues of the greatest gravity were not wrapped up in some modification of unimportant detail, and we therefore acquit the only begetters of the petition, who are of the "Contentio Veritatis" section of thought, of any intentional suppression of truth. But in the suggestion that, by a slight alteration in the statute, the services of one or two lay Hebraists might advantageously be utilised considerably more was implied than met the ear. It is obvious that, when the single but unmistakable restriction which connects the school with the Church shall have been removed, it will be impossible to preserve the orthodox character of the school at all. We say the question has arisen suddenly, and we trust it will not be rushed through before the public understands its bearings. But no one who has watched the growth of the important Dissenting and Unitarian institutions which lie at the back of Holywell, for the theological training of young "Free-Churchmen", can have been unaware that a share would sooner or later be claimed if not by, at least for, these establishments in controlling the School of Theology. That share is now being obtained under cover of a seemingly innocent proposal.

Our objection is not to the divinity studies of Roman Catholics Congregationalists or Unitarians being recognised and rewarded by the University. The petitioners against the present proposal have themselves suggested a separate faculty of undenominational divinity. What we object to is the undenominationalising of the present school. For undenominationalism is essentially illogical and unjust. It is not a removal of all restrictions, but only of one. It admits some but shuts out others. It breaks down the Church character of an institution but retains it as vaguely Christian, or Theistic, or pan-Protestant. There are many students interested in religious science who are, and will continue to be, excluded practically from the Oxford Theology School—Jesuits, Jews, Positivists, Mohammedans, Hindus, Agnostics. Why, if Dr. Fairbairn is to examine in it, should any learned Parsee professor from the Indian Institute be excluded?

The School of Theology, once revered in Oxford as queen and crown of the sciences, has hitherto maintained a high standard of efficiency. The theological faculty comprises men of all tendencies of thought, the examinations have not been framed in an inquisitorial spirit, and the class-lists have taken no notice of the personal views of the candidates. At the same time the standpoint of the school is that of historic Nicene Christianity. The statute prescribes as the subjects of examination the Holy Scriptures, dogmatic and symbolic theology, ecclesiastical history and the Fathers, the evidences of religion, liturgies (especially the Prayer-book), sacred criticism and biblical archaeology. A student in this school feels that he has entered a scientific atmosphere of belief. The assumed basis of his studies is a doctrinal and coherent system of revealed religion. A certain philosophy is presented to him as the pivot and bond of all knowledge and speculation, that of the incarnate Logos. But all this must be changed when the examination is controlled jointly by several denominations, including the Unitarian. Instead of springing out of the broad, unifying, and truly Catholic philosophy of the Incarnation the questions will have to be narrowed and contracted to the greatest common measure of three examiners' beliefs which cannot exceed that of him who believes least. No institution or event can be viewed as a truth but only as a phenomenon. The great facts and mysteries of the Christian religion must not be assumed as an underlying basis, and evidential argument will become an irrelevance. The student will be supposed to sit "holding no form of creed, but contemplating all". Of course no one supposes that the nomination of one examiner from Mansfield or Manchester New College would in this land of compromise bring about such changes immediately. But who does not see that theology, the study of religion from within, is everywhere in Europe being dislodged by a quite different science, the investigation of religion, or rather of religions, from without—literary, archaeological, philological, critical, the comparative anatomy of dead faiths, a museum affair of bottles and drawers and labels? Critical methods and acute research are of great value as auxiliary to theological science. But no inquirer ever yet found truth by standing outside it.

"Following life in creatures we dissect,
We lose it in the moment we detect."

The student is admitted more into the heart of things by one of the great and luminous thoughts of an Ambrose or Augustine than by all the barren exertions of those who exhibit religion in all its stages from the fetus to the poor crumbling relics of the grave. A school remodelled on German lines will repel earnest aspirants for the Christian Ministry. The present proposal then to partition the living body of sacred science between hopelessly disagreeing communions must act like Solomon's judgment.

Of course the restriction of degrees in Divinity to the clergy must be removed if the present proposal is accepted. It may seem a gain that more searching tests of theological learning than Bates' seminary for boys and girls affords should be exacted of would-be-doctorated leaders of passive resistance. But it would be better if the University ceased to confer a degree which is now seldom sought by those who are best entitled to wear it. As for the Divinity professorships, to retain them in the hands of ecclesiastics will soon seem invidious. There is something to be said for throwing open the Regius Professorship of Hebrew—illustrated though it has been so lately by the sanctified learning of Dr. Pusey. We suppose, however, the Chair of Ecclesiastical History, that of Dr. Bright, will also be asked for. If all this is not contemplated by Mr. Allen and his supporters, if they really only wish to make the present school more efficient by enlisting the aid of one or two specialists in Hebrew or History—though we observe that out of thirty-one courses of theological lectures scheduled for this term only one is taken by a layman—we appeal to them to accept the amendment proposed by the Board of Theology, which would modify the

present statute so as to enable deacons and qualified persons in Orders from other Universities to help in the examination.

A JUDICIAL SELECTION.

HIS HONOUR JUDGE EMDEN.

GENERALLY County Court Judges are like women, who, if Pericles was right, the less they are talked about the better reputation they possess. His Honour Judge Emden of, amongst others, the Lambeth County Court has allowed himself to forget this obvious principle, and he has been talked about lately in a manner that must make him regret that he has overstepped the modesty of nature of the model County Court Judge. For a time the obscurity of Lambeth County Court has prevented a full revelation of the non-judicial eccentricities which he has been too long cultivating without restraint; but they have at length been displayed in all their luxuriance by the proceedings which took place the other day in the High Court. In technical legal language we should have to speak of them as an application for a prohibition or a certiorari to remove a case pending in his Honour's Court, or to prevent him proceeding further with it himself; and this might happen very innocently to any of his Honour's colleagues. Really, however, and in the language of ordinary life, they were a step taken in what we fear will be a somewhat lengthy process instituted for the purpose of instructing him in the principles of correct judicial conduct and manners. At any time since he began his judicial career as a Registrar in the Companies Winding-up Court the lesson would have been useful; and if he had undergone the discipline earlier it would have been very much to the advantage of the County Courts of Circuit 48. A sort of little reign of terror has been established there; and we hear of solicitors in that despotically ruled territory who avoid the local temple of civil or uncivil justice in panic fear. Even members of the Bar more or less accustomed to the showier paraphernalia of the High Court have to be unnaturally deferential in a County Court of Circuit 48 and perform the kow-tow with painfully suppressed protests of the gentleman's conscience. If they would avoid for themselves and their clients the loss of their cases they must take extreme care to conform to the great man's abnormally excessive notions of the deference due to him in his office and person. And yet they do not understand for what combination of mental or physical gifts, or for what charm of appearance, and quality of personal intercourse, his Honour of Lambeth County Court should imagine that more deference is his due than the ordinary County Court Judge expects.

We have never heard of any instance but one where the Bar practising in Kent did not think his Honour's manners might be better. This instance is Mr. Adam Walker who, after the Divisional Court had withdrawn the recent case from his Honour on the ground that he had acted wholly inexcusably and unjudicially, went down to Lambeth and reversed this finding by a public declaration that he himself considered his Honour's manners perfection. It was an extraordinary thing to do; and Mr. Walker takes as small care—shall we say of conventional notions?—as his Honour himself. We were going to object to the Judge's action partly for the reason that it is very desirable that a County Court Judge's demeanour should be unassuming, quiet and sympathetic, as counsel who appear before him are many of them young men who have not acquired sufficient courage and skill to stand up to a Judge who presses on them unfairly. But after Mr. Walker's public disapproval of the three Judges of the Divisional Court, and his encouraging his Honour by his compliments, it seems that the best way of keeping order at Lambeth, if it were possible, would be to form a Bar wholly composed of counsel of Mr. Walker's boldness minus his excessive affection for the person of the Judge. Mr. Lawson Walton reproving Mr. Justice Bigham for playing to the gallery is not so striking an instance of forensic self-confidence as Mr. Walker's disapproval of the Divisional Court in not agreeing with him in his opinion of his Honour. Unfortunately Mr. Walker's

effort to rehabilitate his friend's judicial reputation has only resulted in showing that the opinion of the Bar as to the conduct of his Honour is not that of Mr. Walker but of the Divisional Court. It was hardly likely that the Bar Council, which called Mr. Justice Grantham to account for charging a counsel of great reputation with the intention of misleading a jury, would fail to defend a counsel of less fame, and therefore one on whom an irreparable injury might more easily be inflicted. How very unamenable must his Honour Judge Emden be to the propriety of self-restraint when with the faux pas of Mr. Justice Grantham as a warning he deliberately repeated it.

His Honour has certainly sinned grievously against his own order as well as against the Bar. A new County Court Act which extends greatly the jurisdiction of the County Courts is soon to be put in operation; and the conduct of his Honour not only throws grave doubts upon his own competency to be entrusted with enlarged responsibilities but to a certain extent upon his colleagues. At present there are misgivings that in certain important matters, such as imprisonment for debt on judgment summons, the idiosyncrasies of some County Court Judges are the cause of great hardships. Judges have been appointed even to the High Court Bench who are not unexceptionable; and how much more likely it is that County Court Judges, who are not under so much public observation, will succumb to the temptation of deciding with temper instead of with judicial fairness. It may be said almost to be an accident when very superior men have been appointed to the County Court Bench. The vagaries of his Honour Judge Emden were known long before they were brought into public notice by the proceedings in the High Court; but there are other County Court Judges whose conduct and demeanour have received and deserved as much local criticism as Judge Emden's. If the High Court were a tribunal for reviewing manners, which it came very near to being in his Honour's case, it would find its hands pretty full of County Court motions. Now that he and Mr. Walker have been "passed upon" there still remains another personage, more distinguished even than they are, who cannot be exonerated from all responsibility for the scenes at Lambeth and other Kent County Courts. What has taken place there has only revealed defects of temper and manner which were not unknown in the Court of the Registrar in Winding-up; and they were such as should have suggested that they would not become less noticeable in the remoter County of Kent. Now the Lord Chancellor must find himself in the very painful position of having to consider what must be done with Judge Emden, after the recent proceedings; and he might have saved himself this trouble if he had weighed the merits of the appointment as carefully in the first place as he will have to do now.

THE M.C.C. AT HOME AND IN AUSTRALIA.

WHATEVER be the results of the Australian tour all reasonable cricketers will, we think, rejoice in the thought that the present team was despatched under the patronage and government of the Marylebone Cricket Club. It is to be hoped that the precedent will be followed in the future. We wish it were not necessary to say that in expressing such an opinion we have no thought of imputing unworthy motives to those distinguished representatives of English cricket who in years past have on the invitation of the principal colonial clubs taken out eleven to Australia. Yet it is a deplorable fact that last autumn the sporting press was besmirched with unfair insinuations, and that the controversy, which was provoked, as such controversies generally are, by ignorance and stupidity, should have generated a bitterness, we will not say jealousy, which it may take some time to remove. From such proceedings we wish at the outset most emphatically to dissociate ourselves; nor do we think that in the future there will be much necessity for referring to them. The first important advance resulting from the action of the Marylebone Club is that henceforth all questions as to how and when and by whom such

teams should be sent out will be decided by a body which unquestionably holds a premier position in the cricket of the world, and whose fairness, knowledge and honesty few will be inclined to dispute. None, we should imagine, will be more grateful for the change than those cricketers who have suffered from past indefiniteness and want of system in Australia and at home.

The advantages which the new arrangement possesses are manifest enough. Administratively the Marylebone Club is authoritative, financially it is sound. In the solution of questions of cricket selection its sub-committee of experts in consultation with its chosen captain is not likely to be guilty of flagrant error, while it is able to decide with an aloofness and an absence of bias which perhaps are beyond the scope of any individual cricketer. As such it can act as a wholesome corrective of the star-worship which, however unavoidable, has become so tiresome an accompaniment of cricket chronicle. Surely it is time that we adopted in the cricket world something of that wholesome spirit of colonial irreverence which, like the dry clear atmosphere of the lands where it was generated, rarely allows its view to be obscured by the perspective of a distant reputation or the dark background of hallowed sentiment. In England at any rate we need not be afraid of underrating the hoary value of tradition. It is therefore with real satisfaction that we note the appearance of new faces in Mr. Warner's team and observe the success which has justified these selective experiments.

Cricket has been fortunate in many things, but in nothing more, we think, than in the growth of a central body unrivalled in fame, in wealth and in that prestige, which is not always an accompaniment of the two former. It is not likely to forfeit its proud position, for besides these advantages, which it possesses only in a greater degree than other clubs, it has two which are peculiar to itself. In the first place its personnel is unrestricted by local limits. It counts amongst its members nearly every prominent amateur, no matter what part of the country he comes from; and whatever may be said of its general meetings as media for discussion and legislation, it is certainly true that nowhere else would it be possible to collect so large a mass of cricket experience or an assembly more devoted to the maintenance of the best interests of the game. In the second place it stands apart from the county system. It is in the world of county cricket, yet not of it. It takes no share in the county championship. That it should ever head a league of counties against another league on a merely county question is inconceivable. It is a guarantee against a possible disruption, and the permanency of its predominance is as well assured by its value as a neutral ground on which to discuss the questions of the day as by its favourable situation, its traditions and its social pre-eminence. If ever—and at present, so far as we are aware, there is nothing less probable—some fundamental question should threaten a split in English cricket, such a misfortune will be averted, if it is averted at all, by the mediatory action of the Marylebone Cricket Club. For the present it remains only to make the machinery for combined discussion more perfect, and to do all that is possible to maintain the representative character of the club. Thus, and thus only can it speak authoritatively in England, thus only can it remain our plenipotentiary beyond the seas, thus only can it preserve the leading position with which circumstance and custom, not legislative enactment, have for so many years endowed it.

The successful performance of its duties is therefore in our estimation of the utmost importance to the future of the game. Of them the management of colonial cricket tours only constitutes a part, but it is upon this that public attention is at present fixed, and so we will devote the remainder of this article to the achievements of its representatives in Australia. We have no intention of discussing the claims of different cricketers to represent England. We shall content ourselves with saying that we think that the committee chose the captain wisely and that in the circumstances he and his coadjutors showed good judgment in the formation of the team. Certainly

they have so far been justified by results. The tour is more than half over and only one match has been lost. The drawn games without exception have been in our favour. Of the test matches the first was fairly won by brilliant all-round play; the second was decided largely by the spin of the coin, a form of luck in which our Colonial brethren have in past years had a full share. The third we lost owing to an unaccountable failure in the batting. It would be absurd to attempt to forecast the result of the two remaining games. We are told that so high an authority as Mr. Maclaren prophesies defeat on the grounds that the Australians are steadily improving while we are standing still. We see no reason to adopt so gloomy a view. Good as has been the form which up to the present the Englishmen have shown we believe that in the batting at any rate the team has not yet done all that it is capable of achieving. Braund, Arnold, Lilley, Bosanquet and Relf are worth a good many more runs than they have made, while even Warner, Hayward, Tyldesley and Foster, in spite of some splendid performances, have not displayed quite their wonted consistency. Hirst in all departments of the game has alone played up to his reputation. The fielding too has been patchy, curiously so when we remember how many brilliant fieldsmen the side contains. In bowling alone the team has shown a strength and variety which compare very favourably with that of the preceding elevens. Rhodes has bowled with remarkable success. The record of the tour has greatly increased his reputation. For the first time he has proved to the public that he is equal to the best of batsmen on the best of wickets. Hirst, of whom it was predicted that the dryness of the atmosphere would prevent him from making the ball swerve, has almost always done well. Bosanquet has shown once more that on certain occasions his extraordinarily powerful break and capacity for concealing it is deadly to the most experienced players. Arnold, with his excellent length, skilful change of pace and tendency to kick, is one of the mainstays of the side. Braund and Relf, though the former has not quite come up to expectations and the latter has not had a great deal to do, are evidently both bowling well. Of the remaining three Fielder has shown himself to be somewhat wanting in class; Knight and Strudwick have had little chance in the more important matches. We wish Mr. Warner were able to find Knight a place, but none of the first four batsmen or Lilley can be excluded; and if Relf, the only possible alternative, is left out, the side will go into the field with only five bowlers, which is hardly enough on Australian wickets and in matches played to a finish. He can hardly do better than play the eleven which won the first test match. It is curious to note that three out of the six bowlers are "leg-breakers", though all differ in pace and method.

If we were asked to compare the sides we should describe the English team as a strong combination, the Australian as less even but more brilliant. In Trumper and Hill it possesses two batsmen of extraordinary powers, very difficult to get out and capable of demoralising any bowling when set. We have no such batsmen in the M.C.C. eleven; indeed we doubt whether, everything considered, there exist at the present moment their equals in the world. On them together with Duff and Gregory and Noble, who has shown himself a desperately hard man to dismiss, the Australian batting entirely depends, for the tail is a long one—a fact, by the way, which only makes the combined dash coolness and perseverance of the first men all the more remarkable. The fielding seems to be up to the highest Australian standard. Of the bowling it is less easy to speak. Trumble, whose absence in the first game was severely felt, appears as steady and skilful as ever. Howell has returned to something like his old form. Noble, very unluckily, has been handicapped by a bad arm. Armstrong and Saunders seem to be neither better nor worse than they were in England in 1902. But why Hopkins, who in 1902 was always regarded as a change bowler and never particularly impressed the critics, should get so many wickets is a mystery. As a matter of comparison we incline to the view that the English bowling is the better as possessing more variety and a generally higher level

of excellence. But we know that in cricket as in war the general average is not always decisive. We wish Mr. Warner and his men the best of luck. Whatever the result we do not doubt that they will worthily uphold the honour of English cricket and of the Marylebone Club.

A QUARTERLY REVIEWER.

I AM under the Editor's commands to make some reply to Mr. Binyon's article on my "Nineteenth Century Art" in the "Quarterly Review". I should have disobeyed but for a special reason. It is convenient, as a general rule, that writers should take what the taste and sense of justice of their critics give them in silence. I am too much aware of the defects of an essay put out in a provisional form and cramped, in places, into obscurity, too sensible, also, of the generous treatment it has received, to complain when the devil's advocate takes his turn. He is the most wholesome sort of reviewer, and I hope I can listen cheerfully and with profit.

I shall not cry out then when I am hit, but it is a pity that controversy should be wasted between us when the ground for it does not exist. This is the case with the greater part of Mr. Binyon's argument. It is based on preconceptions that should have been dispipated by the simple process of reading the book.

The first of these preconceptions relates to the subject of "Impressionism", and Mr. Binyon's argument rests on a mere verbal confusion. He argues that the first chapter of the book is entirely disproportionate because on p. 3 I plunge into impressionism, which turns out afterwards to be only one corner of nineteenth-century art, as the subsequent treatment shows. Now Mr. Binyon here relies on a confusion between the strict use of the word "Impressionistes" for a group of painters from the '70's onwards, and the looser use of the word impressionism in this country, which we may deplore, but cannot now help, for features in the general movement of the century's painting that affected landscape chiefly but also portrait and monumental work. It was in this sense that I used the word in the first chapter, and I took care there, and afterwards in the ninth, when the final phase of this art is dealt with, expressly to guard against the confusion. Mr. Binyon therefore was not justified in overlooking the distinction. But more: Mr. Binyon accuses me of the disproportion of treating the painting of the century, in this first chapter, as if its whole business had been one of "machining values". That is quite unfair. This chapter (on the painter's vision of the century) deals expressly with what was special and peculiar in this modern vision, what was added by the century to the instrument of painting. In the opening sentences I make it clear that important artists refrained from using the new keys in this instrument; and in the second chapter I grouped the artists of the century by their imaginative importance. Now I think Mr. Binyon would allow that if one were writing the history of the Florentine or of the Venetian school of painting, there would be no disproportion in a preliminary chapter dealing in the one case with the development of sculptural form in painting, in the other with the development of the harmonies of colour and tone. In the nineteenth century this special development was in the sense of the natural unity of light, the exploration of its higher pitches, its influence and that of atmosphere and vapour on definition, and in the devices of pictorial emphasis that follow the natural action of the interested eye. Mr. Binyon misreads in the same way when he comes to the last sentence of the book, in which I speak of the art of the century taking its special stamp from its occupation with light. This is not the same thing as saying its only stamp or even its greatest. But Mr. Binyon's preconception does not end here. He speaks of my writing of the Impressionists (i.e. Monet and his school) "with the eloquence of an apostle". As a matter of fact I have never praised Monet without important reserves; Pissarro, and still more Renoir, I regard as having been dévoyés by the movement. I introduced science which

in this connexion Mr. Binyon views with suspicion,* to prove that Monet's painting was not strictly scientific at all, but a compromise of art to obtain certain effects of beauty: and I demonstrated, I think for the first time, the scientific fallacies on which the pointillists worked. But:—I refused, as I shall always do, to rule out the actually beautiful performances of Monet because theories attributed to him can be disproved. Monet is a limited artist on the side of design, his imagination is only one section of imagination: but he has discovered beauty.†

Such was one of the threads of the book. Another was a distinction drawn among three leading imaginative types. Mr. Binyon's objections are a little mixed here, because they embrace a denial of the validity or applicability of the distinction, and a charge of despising one of the types. I will not linger over the first objection, for all it seems to come to is that I have driven the distinction a little too hard, which may very well be, and that the names ("Olympian" and "Titan") are too high-sounding for all cases. I agree that they do not bear repeating at the head of pages, but the distinction behind the names is a real one, and I venture to think that not only the kinship of temper and ideas in the two lines of artists, but the effect this has on their systems of drawing and modelling, and the use they make of "nature" was an interesting one and deserved discussion by the reviewer, rather than the verbal question. But I must not stray from my point. My point is the extraordinary mare's nest Mr. Binyon discovers here. He actually believes that I wish to run down Olympian or "classic" art, and that I use an expression like "still-life form" (which need not, surely, mean the same thing as "nature-morte") with this nefarious intent. He is so convinced of this that he accuses me of forgetting Pheidias altogether. "Where", he asks "are Phidias and Sophocles, names that come naturally to the mind as types of what in ordinary language is accepted as Olympian art?" The answer is, that in the very paragraph he is referring to I say, "When we think of these different imaginations as stamped in art, we are accustomed to call the first" (i.e. the Olympian) "Greek or classic, because in the Periclean period of Greek sculpture the most severe and majestic images of humanity were wrought, and have remained a pledge and despair for feeble returns of the same spirit". It was those feeble academic returns that I called "official", and it was the virtues of this ideal, dropped to a plodding level, and deserted by this divine exaltation of art, that I called "Philistine", not in dishonour of the art, but in honour of what are virtues still. I was unable to pay a lengthy tribute to Pheidias for a simple reason, that Pheidias did not flourish in the nineteenth century, nor did anyone approaching him at once in temper and in power. The century, as I explained, was unkind to the Olympian temper, the Titans flourished more naturally; but for that very reason I was particularly careful to give full measure and more to any appearance of the classic temper in an unfavourable time. Thus I strained a point to give the ideas of David full scope as well as the art of Ingres; I gave Chassériau something over his strict due, and when a really heroic artist appeared in Stevens, with a share of the serene classic spirit, I gave him, as Mr. Binyon allows, the honour he deserved.

Let me quote Mr. Binyon further to show that I am not doing him injustice. "Mr. MacColl", he says, "has much more sympathy with the Titans than with the Olympians. We have seen what an inadequate and degrading interpretation he puts upon the latter term: but he seems also to have an animus against those qualities which belong to what really deserves the name of Olympian. No point is spared which may cast a slur on Olympian art. 'This art', he tells us,

* Mr. Binyon's own bias is illustrated by this prejudice against the science of light and the "dehumanised" character of Monet's interests; while he praises Barye for his knowledge of science and development of an extra-human subject.

† Mr. Binyon wastes a good deal of sarcasm on the phrase "the innocence of the eye". The phrase is not mine, it has been employed by Ruskin and others, and I used it as being a nearly technical expression. It refers to a procedure, and not, as Mr. Binyon chooses to suppose, to an aim of art.

'excludes all sensation and emotion but such as the State can approve'. This is skilful depreciation, but must not blind us to the falseness of the issue raised. It is assumed that there is one type of art which aims at expressing personal taste and emotion, opposed to another which aims at representing what the State would approve of. There is an implied preference for the former". Leaving any preference aside, where, in what I have said, is there any hint of degradation or slur? When I speak of "sensation and emotion such as the State can approve" has Mr. Binyon entirely missed the reference to the "Republic"? Plato there has no doubt made his ideal of a godlike and serene art stricter than its original, but when he banishes from his State all art that claims pity and tears, all art that deals with the ugly and horrible and voluptuous, all that deals with Hell and its passions, he is only driving to its logical conclusion what classic art tends to impose, namely a limit on character and emotion, and all merely personal expression. Plato would limit sculpture, painting and music in this sense, and would banish Dante, Michael Angelo,* nearly all modern music and painting, just as Ingres would banish Delacroix and Wagner. That is Olympianism in its extreme sectarian form. Titanism in its extreme, and it loves extremes, indulges in emotion as emotion, gives the individual his full fling. The Titan would be unhappy if there were nothing to rebel against, miserable in a serene air.

I submit that those misreadings, on which my reviewer's criticisms are mainly based, are rather serious in a writer affecting the authority and using the deliberation of the "Quarterly"; for haste can hardly be a plea in a notice appearing more than a year after the publication of the book. Mr. Binyon naturally finds it difficult to square my actual judgments with his preconception of what I must prefer. He complains that I have no consistent attitude. There we do come upon a real and fundamental question, that of a critic's duty to conflicting imaginations, on which controversy might arise and be profitable. It occupied me much in writing, and I should have touched upon it in a preface or epilogue, had space allowed. The limits of the present article, whose object is merely to rule out needless misunderstandings, forbid its discussion.

D. S. MACCOLL.

ON THE TEACHING OF MUSIC.

NO subject has been more freely and fruitlessly canvassed than that of the teaching of music. Especially the exponents of the rival methods of learning to play the piano and to sing seem ready to strangle one another in sheer love. The violin, organ and banjo teachers go along contentedly in the old way without fuss; but these other people are never happy unless they are madly wroth with one another. Which is the best position for the wrist, should a stomach pump be used before practising certain solfeggi, is there such a thing as a column of air in the windpipe?—these are the matters discussed every day, the matters that have been discussed any day these fifty years or more. Each combatant, in a more or less polite manner, calls the others fools and humbugs. These are the fanatics, the honest fanatics. But England is infested with another species, not at all fanatical. Knowing little or nothing of music, they "teach" music; and they are ready to give instruction in the arts of singing, piano-playing, violin, organ or trombone playing. The most pestilential class of all is that of the voice trainers. There are

* I spoke of Michael Angelo as the father of the line Goya, Blake, Géricault, Delacroix, Daumier, Millet and Rodin. Mr. Binyon says, "Mr. MacColl calls Michelangelo the originator of this aim" (i.e. the strongly emotional) "in art. Pollaiuolo, Botticelli, Signorelli are all more vehement and violent than Michelangelo. When Michelangelo and Leonardo produced their great cartoons in rivalry, it was Leonardo who chose the extreme action of battle, Michelangelo the 'statuesque poses' of bathers surprised". This not very recondite learning is really out of place. Pollaiuolo, Botticelli, Signorelli dropped out of influence and almost knowledge for centuries after Michael Angelo, and were not the masters of the artists I have named. Leonardo's cartoon might have had an influence, if it had existed. What Mr. Binyon might have reasonably noted is that Rubens's copy of a fragment of the fighting horses had an important effect on his art, and through him on Delacroix. But the "Last Judgment" was the fountain-head of passionate energy.

more voice-breakers in London, I think, than in any other city in the world. It is a lucrative business, this of voice-breaking. All you need are a big house, if possible a carriage, a *réclame* in one of the reviews—and your fortune is made. You may break voice after voice—it does not matter: an endless supply of fresh pupils will replace those you have ruined. At this moment there are a dozen such teachers known to me, and probably there are others I have never heard of. There seems to be absolutely no remedy against these humbugs. They are tolerated by the “recognised” musical institutions, musicians who ought to know better do nothing to hinder them in their nefarious trade, they are honoured by Royalty, and they impress their customers by living in lordly style. Ten years ago there was a great outcry about the number of bad teachers in London; and someone hit upon the brilliant idea of registering music-teachers as doctors are registered. But the whole movement was bogus. It was to a large extent organised by a gentleman whom one could not take seriously; sham teachers took part in it; and the object was not to keep out the sham teachers but to bring grist to the mill of certain musical institutions. You were not to be allowed to teach unless you held—and of course had paid for—a certificate from one of these institutions. Sir John Stainer smilingly killed the whole thing; and though it is spoken of now and again at meetings of incorporated animated mummies no serious attempt has been made to revive it.

There is no remedy for the humbug. Even if every teacher were compelled to pass an examination before being allowed to teach, we could only know that he was acquainted with lines and spaces and perhaps had a smattering of musical history. The examinations of these “recognised” institutions are for the most part entirely worthless. Most of these “recognised” institutions are simply money-making concerns; they were begotten in iniquity and they stick fast in the paths of strict commercialism. During the period of the registration bubble Sir John Stainer recounted to me the histories of several of them. The Royal College of Organists (why Royal, by the way? what has Royalty to do with music?) was hatched in the back parlour of a public house; candlesticks and lamps not being to hand a tallow candle was stuck in the neck of an empty beer bottle; and in these circumstances and under these conditions one of our “recognised” institutions came into existence. The Royal College of Music is a sort of phoenix which arose from the ashes of the National Training School for Music. How the transformation was effected no one who knows will tell. Sir John Stainer, who was principal of the earlier institution, declared that he didn't know—that simply he found the door shut in his face and the new thing came into being. I wonder how many people remember Sir Edward Clarke's tremendous exposure of Trinity College. None of these concerns have a past to boast about. If their various professors and defenders did not talk so contemptuously of other schools one would be content to leave them alone; for after all, if they do no good, they do little harm. But when attempts are made to get the whole musical education of this country into their hands, it is time to remind them that those hands are not of the cleanest.

Apart from this, however, there is another reason why registration is useless. It is doubtless quite right to register doctors. One does not want to be given two ounces of arsenic for a headache; and it is only fair that one should have some assurance that a doctor knows how to set a broken limb or bandage a broken head. For these exploits a man can be examined and registered. But take the case of a doctor for mental diseases. He knows the groundwork, the fundamental things, of his business; but the things most important in him are precisely the things about which he cannot be examined. His sympathy, his psychological insight—how can you examine a man about these? The case of a teacher of music is exactly the same. What he knows about the laws of harmony—laws which are no laws—what he knows about the trick of placing the fingers properly on the piano—these things have no great value. The qualities wanted in a teacher are magnetism, sympathy, enthusiasm. The knowledge

must go before, just as a teacher in an ordinary school must know his A B C and that twice two are not five; but it is after that the important matter arrives. Anyone can learn A B C, anyone can learn that twice two are four: it is not everyone who can heat the brain to the point of learning unimaginable things. The teacher, like the poet, is born and also made.

The pupil, he too, is born and also made. It is not surprising that English students arrive at so little when one considers how little they work. They take their lessons, they work their exercises, they practise the piano or the violin or the voice, and then they are content. Consider the case of Paris. Paris is anything rather than a musical city. But my colleague Mr. Macdonald will bear me out in what I say about the Paris art and musical students. I want to hang on to concrete facts, so my readers must excuse a trifle of autobiography. We stayed in the same house, Mr. Macdonald and I, and we observed that immediately after dinner the students went off to bed. At ten o'clock the lady of the house also went to bed. If I carelessly played the piano at eleven, there was a horrible row the next day. If I played it at twelve, it was hardly possible to eat one's lunch the next day. So in the long run we learnt better manners. We used to go out to play billiards at ten; then we entered and sat down and smoked, and drank a most horrible mixture of red wine and water until the early hours; and of course we talked literature and the arts. And when we distributed ourselves to go to our respective chambers, we used to hear a noise. Was the house on fire? were there burglars there? No: it was simply the students getting ready to begin their day's work. The devils in Dante's *Inferno* could not work harder than these young people. There is nothing like it in England. The French have produced no great musicians; but it is not for want of hard work. In England we have nothing of this; and we shall never have any really great musicians until it begins.

The intelligent reader will have perceived the point I wish to make: there must not only be good teachers, but also good learners. In France, in Germany, in Belgium, the students work diligently; in England they don't work with anything like the same vigour. If they really want to be musicians they will have to work—for a technique comes not of itself.

There is a further point to be considered. Why on earth should music be virtually excluded from our schools? It is true that later in life very few people read the classics and that very few amuse themselves with mathematics and the other sciences. That is no argument against the teaching of the sciences. Music should be taught in all our schools even as the classics and mathematics are taught. It is true that sculpture is not taught; but that is no reason why music should not be taught.

JOHN F. RUNCIMAN.

“WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, . . .”

MAN is a name-signing animal. Lock him into a room, with nothing but paper and pencil, and he will while away his confinement, quite agreeably, by writing and re-writing his autograph. Leave him there with nothing but a diamond, and on your return you will find the window scored faintly over with the captive's name in various sizes and at various angles. Take away the diamond, and anon with his forefinger-nail will he be graving upon wall or door the artless expression of his egoism. The persons who scatter (with or without stamped envelope) requests for autographs have often been decried as a nuisance; but the true cause of the bitterness against them is that they are not a public nuisance: they don't write to everybody. Such terms as “autograph-fiend” are used only by the writer whose autograph has never yet been solicited. I implore the collectors to cast wider their nets. It is awful to think how many men and women whose names are before the public, but do not excite enthusiasm or curiosity, are watching hourly their letter-boxes, and tearing open their letters in the wild faith that the request has come at last. On

their writing-tables are stacked pathetically in readiness their graceful compliances: *Dear Sir, I have much pleasure in acceding to your request, and in signing myself, with kind regards, yours truly* SO-AND-SO; and *Dear Madam, My only reason for hesitating to give you that which you so kindly demand is that scarcity is the one thing which could render valuable the signature of yours truly* SO AND-SO; and many other missives not less neatly to the same effect. Shall the space left in each, for the insertion of the date, be filled up never? Shall that ink fade, and that cream-laid superfine notepaper become yellow—to be splashed, at last, by the tears of groping executors? . . . Ah, let the nets be cast much wider.

It is a strange thing, this passion of men and women for signing their names. Political economists tell us that there is a great deal of "locked-up capital" in our midst. I do not believe it. There may be a few antique misers, brooding by night in their bed-rooms over piles of gold. But, generally speaking, "locked-up capital" disappeared when cheques were invented. When you sign a cheque, you never grudge the amount, however loth by nature you be to "part" (even with the smallest sum) in specie. You make the cheque out for such-and-such an amount, but your loss is not real to you. Your imagination is not strong enough to solidify and visualise a thing so remote, so vaguely symbolic, as these cyphers. The one thing that you realise in the cheque is your own signature—your own strongly flowing and flourishing, or delicate and delightful, autograph. I had a friend, a man of extravagant habit and slender means, and quite unblest with that persuasive magnetism which is the secret of the successful adventurer. I once asked him how he contrived to keep his head always above water. He replied that anyone was always willing to back a bill for him. A fact, but not an explanation; *why* was everyone so accommodating? My friend smiled. He said it was quite true that, if he asked a man to promise to back a bill at some future date, or even to accompany him to the place where the bill was lying unbacked, he met with a polite or curt refusal. But this was a mode which he had abandoned long ago. Simultaneously with his appeal, he always produced from his pocket the bill in question and a stylographic pen; and then, somehow inevitably, the trick was done.

Many other startling phenomena can be understood in the light of this human weakness. One of the rights of the free-born Briton is to petition the High Court of Parliament. It is one of the rights he most dearly cherishes. Yet he knows that the High Court of Parliament takes not the slightest notice of the vast and innumerable petitions that are so assiduously thrust on it. True, he does not, for the most part, want any notice to be taken. His signature is no mere means to an end. He will sign, for signing's sake, anything that comes his way. I wager that, if I had the time and the folly, I could get every literate resident in any given district to sign a petition for, and a petition against, any given proposal. And if I had these two petitions printed and published broadcast together, the petition-habit would, I wager, go on flourishing as bravely as ever, rooted, as it is, in the needs of our mystic souls. My experiment's sole result would be that the signatories (they always call themselves the signatories) would preen themselves on seeing their names in print.

In print! The fascination of it! And, as we know, it is a lure not merely for poor and lowly and simple folk. The rich, the fashionable, and the illustriously intellectual—they, too, dearly love it: custom cannot stale it for them. And they, too, of course, being but human, share the primary lust for writing signatures even without a view to publication. Thus I am not so much cheered as I should like to be by the current number of the "Fortnightly Review", which reveals in Roman capitals the names of seventy-two ladies and gentlemen purporting to think that "something must be done" for our drama. Some of these ladies and gentlemen are very rich, some are very fashionable, and some are, in various kinds, and in very various degrees, intellectually illustrious. But the fact that their names are thus printed for him who runs to read (with a reverent pause in his wild career) does not suggest to

me that they are keen for anything to be done—still less, that they are keen to do anything themselves, or even to bestow the favour of their esteemed patronage on anyone who is trying to do anything. True, there is Mr. Frederic Harrison, amplifying his signature with the news that he once whispered in the ear of "a well-known philanthropist" the temptation to endow a theatre. But this philanthropist appears to have been a deaf one; and Mr. Harrison is left lamenting that people who go to the pit of a theatre think it necessary to wear evening-dress. This innovation is, I confess, since my time. I have not been to a theatre in the past fortnight. I wonder how often Mr. Harrison goes? I should not blame him if I heard that he went very seldom. The theatre is not, generally speaking, a fit place for clever men. But one may make reservations. The Stage Society, for example, has produced several plays of an intellectual kind. Does Mr. Harrison subscribe to the Stage Society, I wonder? And of those other clever signatories, and of those rich and fashionable signatories, how many, I wonder, subscribe, or have any intention of subscribing, to the Stage Society? And yet that "something" which, according to them, "must be done" could be done better and more easily by encouraging such an institution than by any other means. A State Theatre or two would be very nice? The State won't give us them. Municipal Theatres would be very nice? The Aldermen sit tight. A millionaire-endowed Theatre would be very nice? The millionaire smiles vacantly. But there is no reason why a theatre should not be endowed for the Stage Society, or for some new equivalent, and thus an intellectual drama be fostered, by subscriptions from the eager rich and the eager fashionable . . . no reason at all, except that the rich and fashionable are eager only for those musical comedies which Mr. W. L. Courtney deprecates. As for the intellectuals, who might use their intellects in the art of wheeling out subscriptions—they, for the most part, find fodder enough in life and libraries, and care little what becomes of the drama, so long as they are allowed to sign protests about it.

Stay! I think I see a glimmer of hope. Mr. Courtney's seventy-two stars are not to be left in sole possession of his firmament. He describes them as a "First List". Others will coruscate, presumably, in March. Let them pay for it. Let no one who is not willing to pay (say) a guinea for the "Fortnightly's" Roman capitals be suffered to join the illustrious protest. And let no one who *is* willing be excluded. As a student of human nature, I guarantee that within a few months the Editor would have enough in hand to endow the theatre of his dreams. My only regret is that the high tone of this little essay will preclude as signatory

MAX BEERBOHM.

THE CITY.

BEFORE these lines appear war will in all probability have broken out, if not been declared, between Russia and Japan. The Stock Exchange has so long expected it and discounted it, that, though prices are sure to be marked down at first, the fall will not, in our opinion, be severe or prolonged. There is practically no account open for the rise in either Kaffirs or Yankees, which are the most speculative markets. Some "bear" selling from Paris there may be, but that is the safety of the market. The question of Chinese labour in the Transvaal will be hung up until the House of Commons can find time to discuss it. This is very cruel, as from Lord Milner's report it appears that the state of things at Johannesburg is appalling. How Mr. Lyttelton was weak enough to allow the House of Commons to meddle we cannot imagine. However he has announced that the sanction of the Act cannot be postponed later than the termination of the debate on the Address, which cannot be more than a fortnight. This will steady South Africans: but we do not believe in a sustained rise until the output is increased by Chinese coolies. The market in which there has been most genuine activity of late is Argentine Rails. There must be a fairly large "bull" account

in Rosarios and Pacifics, but not dangerously so, because the jobbers in Argentine Rails do not make carrying-over too easy, and there is no option dealing in these securities. But if anything is certain in the world of money it is that Rosarios will go to par, if not much higher, and that Buenos Ayres and Pacifics will probably reach 130.

The general condition of other markets is stagnant. The members of the Stock Exchange are really to be pitied. After four years of dullness, only relieved by six months of American boom in 1901, they see in front of them a further period of suspense and inactivity. It is not that the actual fighting between Russia and Japan can injuriously affect the various securities in which they deal. On the contrary, the shares of companies like Vickers and Armstrongs and all tinned-meat companies ought to improve. War always brings money into circulation. So long, that is, as hostilities continue, and until it is quite certain that England will not be drawn in, the outside public hold their hand, and will not come into the market. This is particularly true of Berlin and Paris operators. The fact is that the present Stock Exchange is organised upon a boom footing. In quiet or depressed times there is not enough business to go round. There will probably be a considerable diminution of membership this year, as people cannot go on living on their capital for ever.

Messrs. Erlanger are offering £260,000 four per cent. debentures in the new Cape Central Railway at 90. The money is wanted to make an extension of railway from Riversdale, east of Capetown, to Mossel Bay, which will be completed by 1906, until which date the contractors Messrs. Pauling undertake to provide the interest. The prospectus says "when this new section and the Cape Government line on the eastern side of the Gouritz river, from Mossel Bay to Oudtshoorn, now in course of construction, are completed and connected, there will be an alternative route from Cape Town to the Orange River Colony, Johannesburg and Pretoria, traversing a fertile country". There is also the prospect of opening out a new through route from Cape Town to Port Elizabeth. We should say these debentures at 90 were a good investment. We still think that Metropolitan Electric Supply shares, which have risen £1 since we wrote, are a good purchase, as the Marylebone Borough Council must in the long run come to their terms and the earnings of the company during the last quarter have been extraordinarily good. The shares are worth £20.

AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE.

THERE are certain aspects of American Life assurance which some British Life offices do, and some do not, study with advantage. Life assurance has been taught to the world in the first place by the Old Equitable Society, and subsequently by British Life offices in general. This teaching has, however, largely been confined to the theory of the subject, and to the maintenance of financial strength and unquestionable integrity in every respect carried to an extent that the insurance companies of other countries do not equal. This may appropriately be called the "professional" aspect of Life assurance; but there is a "business" side in regard to which—speaking generally—America is ahead of England.

The manager of an American Life office is as a rule a commercial salesman with a talent for organising, advertising, and pushing; and the actuary of an American Life office is a subordinate of some mathematical ability, employed to elaborate the schemes required by the business manager of his company.

In British companies, on the other hand, the actuary is generally supreme. Any policy which his office issues must be both financially sound and as beneficial as may be to the policy-holder who takes it. The consequence is that the actuary is often a stumbling block in the way of the agency manager, branch manager, or agent. It is only quite occasionally that a British actuary has any practical experience of outside work: when he has, he is in a position to help the agent to a quite exceptional extent, and to produce results which

leave nothing to be desired from either the commercial or the actuarial point of view. The best example of the combination of actuary and business man at the present time is to be found in the manager of the Norwich Union Life Office, and the phenomenal progress of this company both in financial strength and in magnitude affords striking testimony to the value of the combination in a manager of actuarial and business training.

British offices as a rule employ comparatively few agents who are paid to do nothing else but obtain assurance proposals. There may be a few agents in London working solely for the company, and some branch managers in the principal provincial towns, to whom a salary is paid, with, sometimes, a commission on the business obtained in addition. But any British office generally has upon its books a whole army of solicitors, auctioneers, and others who are paid solely by commission, and whose contributions to the business of the company are of the most casual kind. The American companies, as a rule, have a great many agents to whom a salary is paid, with commission in addition, who are nothing more nor less than commercial travellers in life assurance: they devote their time to this and to nothing else, and the result is that the American offices obtain a very large amount of new business.

Another aspect of the matter, and one which distinctly tends to limit the extension of the business, is that the best British offices regard the welfare of existing policy-holders as the matter of chief concern; while the most prominent American companies consider the acquisition of new policy-holders to be the point of greatest importance. The British and American offices are both successful in achieving the object: they respectively desire, but there can be no question that the British method is the better of the two. The American plan has consisted, and apparently still consists, in "dressing the window" by means of estimates which cannot be fulfilled, and in constant changes in the nature of the policies, which tend to make comparison with past results difficult if not impossible.

The contrast between the two systems comes to this: the policies of the best British offices are far superior to those of the American companies; but the policies of the American offices are presented for sale in a much more attractive fashion than those of the British companies. There is an obvious moral. The British companies should learn from the Americans to present their policies in more attractive fashion, and the American offices should learn from the British to increase the intrinsic value of their policies, even at the expense of colouring less gorgeously the estimates they issue, and spending less liberally on the acquisition of new business.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ORGANISED LABOUR AND THE TARIFF QUESTION.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Lumsden, Assa, B.N.A., 18 December, 1903.

SIR,—It is impossible to ignore the fact—so forcibly demonstrated by the recently issued "United Labour Manifesto"—that organised labour is at present antagonistic to a policy of protection.

Without the support of the trades unions it is more than doubtful whether any form of protection can be successfully inaugurated in Great Britain. How, then, can labour be placated? is the question that tariff reformers have to solve. This, I venture to think, can only be done by practically convincing the workman that he, equally with his employer, will benefit by a high tariff system. My suggestion for doing this would be the institution of a National Wage Board and the general adoption either of the sliding scale method or of an equitable profit-sharing scheme. Both capital and labour would be represented on the Wage Board, which would be a Government organisation under the supervision of the Board of Trade.

One other obstacle seems to stand in the way of fiscal reform, viz. the widespread and deeply-rooted antipathy to anything in the shape of a corn-tax. This, I think, would to a great extent be removed by the Government establishing national granaries, which would not only serve as a national reserve in time of war, but could be used for the purpose of regulating the price of wheat when considered expedient. Further, it should be arranged that the corn-tax should not come into operation for a period of three years, which would enable the Government to establish its grain reserve and at the same time give the English and Canadian farmer an opportunity of so increasing the British wheat-growing area that the eventual shutting out of the American crops from the English market would not materially affect prices.

Yours faithfully,
BURFORD HOOKE.

A OR AN BEFORE THE ASPIRATE.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Elysée Palace Hôtel, Paris, 30 January.

SIR,—In reading your issue of 23 January I came across the words "an hotel" on the top of the second column of page 107. And this atrocious expression occurs in an article by one of the more gifted of modern essayists—"Max".

Will you permit me to append a quotation from an article in the February "Munsey" by Professor Brander Matthews on "The Development of the English Language"? It may be found in the section of his article entitled "The Plague of Foreign Words".

"Our British cousins are worse sinners in this respect than we Americans are. They give a French pronunciation to trait and charade and hotel, even going so far as to write an hotel, because the h is silent in French. This seems illogical, for if trait and charade and hotel are words needed in our language there is no reason why they should not be accepted frankly as English, and therefore pronounced as English."

I have, &c.

A. E. GALLATIN.

["An" before hotel has nothing whatever to do with the French pronunciation of the word. The second is the accented syllable, though the o in the first syllable is long in quantity: and where an unaccented first syllable of a word begins with h, sounded or silent, it may, and we hold that the weight of authority is in favour of that use, be preceded by an. We prefer "an historic novel" to "a historic". At the same time, of course, we are aware that many good English scholars follow the other use and write a before every sounded initial h. The use of the n in an being due to a shrinking from the unpleasant assonance of two vowels, a mere rough breathing, which hardly softens the cacophony, leaves n still necessary for the purpose of a euphonic buffer.—ED. S.R.]

PLAGIARISED PURPLE?

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

"Rosenau", St. Margaret's, Twickenham.

SIR,—The opening of the passage in the late Mr. John Bright's speech of 23 February 1855—"The Angel of Death has been abroad throughout the land; you may almost hear the beating of his wings" has been very generally and justly admired. As the Dictionary of National Biography says it is "regarded as his oratorical masterpiece". Has it ever been alleged that it was other than strictly the orator's own? In a little-known book "The Memoirs of Lavater" (the Swiss political and religious enthusiast) by P. S. Heisch, published in London in 1842, the following appears in the account of his last illness:—

"When towards the end of December Gessner approached his bed he found him tolerably easy;

Lavater said: 'My time is at hand; the angel of death is not far off'." He then repeated that noted verse of Vergil,

"*Alarum verbera nosco
Lethalemque sonum*".

The conscious, or unconscious, plagiarism is wonderfully distinct and is a remarkable addition to the evidence that there is nothing new under the sun!

Yours obediently,

F. F. MONTAGUE.

WEAK HEADS AND NEW WINE.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

1 King's Walk Chambers, Parliament Street,
Nottingham, 22 January, 1904.

SIR,—In your issue of 16 January you have an article on "Æther and Gravitation" which I presume is supposed to be a review of that work. May I venture respectfully to point out that abuse is not criticism, and that anyone possessing a facile pen and a ready wit could write a similar article? But it demands higher faculties than these to appreciate or disprove the theory submitted in the work referred to. As a personal appeal is made to me in that article, I trust you will give me the opportunity of replying to the same. It is an obvious truism that either the theory is right, or wrong. It cannot be both at one and the same time. If the theory is wrong then it is logically and philosophically capable of being disproved. Yet, instead of any sustained attempt, either in the form of logical argument or an appeal to modern experiments, being made to disprove the theory, the writer simply relies upon inane remarks anent "tallow chandlers &c." to support his arguments. I am asked for an experiment to prove that æther is subject to the law of gravitation. My reply is that Michelson's and Morley's experiment conclusively proves that æther is gravitative. As, however, the experiment was performed in America, the reviewer may say it is inadmissible as a proof in England. Now, that experiment conclusively proves that the æther medium is at rest relatively to the earth, and rotates with the earth in the same way that the atmosphere does. To do this, however, it must of necessity be held bound to the earth by some law, and if that law is not the law of gravitation, perhaps the reviewer will state what other law it is. Possibly he has found out another law himself? I am prepared to challenge the reviewer at any time in any public hall, and prove that my theory of an atomic and gravitative æther is more logical and philosophical, and more in harmony with up-to-date experiments than the theory that he holds, whatever that may be. If I fail to do it, I will forfeit £100 to any hospital in London. We shall then have an opportunity of finding out which of us knows what he is talking about. Thanking you in anticipation for inserting this,

I am, yours obediently,

W. G. HOOPER.

[Mr. Hooper's letter supplies an apt illustration of the spirit in which he approaches scientific problems when he suggests the platform of a public hall as a suitable place for their discussion. We suppose he would take a vote at the finish! The question can only be dealt with by abstruse mathematics, yet there is not a sign in Mr. Hooper's book that he possesses sufficient equipment in that direction to understand what his own surmises involve. Whatever else Michelson's experiment proves it is not that the æther is moving with the earth as the atmosphere does. There is no "must of necessity" about the æther being bound to the earth; many have been the failures, like Sir Oliver Lodge's rotating steel disc experiment, to show any interaction between matter and æther (vide for example Trouton and Noble. Phil. Trans. A. 1903 p. 165). Our challenge to Mr. Hooper was to devise a crucial experiment of any kind in support of his theory; we give him another one, to calculate on his theory the path of a ray of light to the earth through his moving æther and apply the results to the theory of stellar aberration.—ED. S.R.]

REVIEWS.

MANKIND AND THE CLASSICS.

"A History of Classical Scholarship." By J. E. Sandys.
Cambridge: At the University Press. 1903.
10s. 6d. net.

OUR emotions, as we read this packed and copious volume, are largely of pity and terror; there were so many textualists and so few men of letters, so many grammarians and so few critics. All the genuine scholars were, in one way or other, great men. We have Aristotle, the born philosopher, the man of cosmic intelligence who apportioned to literary art, as to everything else, due place in his organic survey of the whole of life. There is a born humanist like Horace, a temperamental critic who assessed the emotional values of Greek drama as nicely, and almost as subjectively (if we read between the lines), as any nineteenth-century writer. The speech of Cicero "pro Archia" is a delightful testimony to the felt value of literature. To Cicero scholarship as well as literature owes much. Contemptible opportunist in affairs, he brought to the study of great books an unworldly zest and joyful idealism. He lived on that plane of thought which Alexander touched for a moment when he spared the house of Pindar. Though his mind was more conspicuous for range than for sensibility, Cicero really loved written thoughts, and he is a great scholar by virtue, not so much of what he says about Greek authors, as of the passion for them which he communicates. Seneca is another name. His literary opinions were expressed in a fashion that rejoices our heart. The disputes of grammarians, who had turned "philosophy into philology", he cannot away with, and "does not even care to inquire whether Homer or Hesiod was the earlier poet". His description of Ovid—"poetarum ingeniosissimus, ad pueriles ineptias delapsus"—would alone give him place as a person of acute and level judgment who read books for their intrinsic worth. Quintilian, again, had the scholarly soul. He is noteworthy because, although he is much concerned with linguistic points, he infuses most of his criticism with the larger sense and is a far broader mind than his somewhat professional accent would casually indicate. We are aware of no more scholarly exercise than the attempt to translate a good passage of Quintilian in terms of modern literary criticism. Tacitus, with his biting grip of human nature and philosophy, was sure to have something to say when he touched upon letters. His "Dialogus de Oratoribus" is without the abrupt grandeur of his later, historical style, but there is plenty of solid matter with some of the sparks which no theme could fail to strike from his flinty and keen intellect. He is a critic with the genius of phrase. "Sic libertatem temperatis" says one person of the dialogue, praising the style of his friends—a brilliant touch that recalls the happy phrase of Bagehot about "animated moderation". Longinus, or whoever it was who wrote the Treatise, provides another oasis in the grammatical waste. We find in him the true conception of literature, as a distillation of life. "Rather a fancier than a critic", said Macaulay of this author; a compliment which coming from that master of the brazen trumpet would apply to most critics of the high and sensitive order. Ausonius too is here, a fine scholar in his way though something of a dilettante, reading Vergil with a deeply æsthetic appreciation and in his own verse touching the outworn hexameter with a delicate bloom of his own. In some lights he saw nature as even Vergil had not quite seen it, felt it with a very modern intimacy, and echoed in words the flowing of water with a dreamy sadness, as though it meant for him the quiet flowing away of life. All these men had creative minds, and their efforts in the domain of critical scholarship exemplify the truth (which we suppose nobody now would dispute) that only a creative mind can fruitfully criticise works of art.

It does not follow that the records of purely professional scholarship are dull. Dr. Sandys is a distinctly readable compiler, and has quite a mine of amusing facts, to say nothing of his felicitous knack in quotation. Even among the ancients there were the two

campes into which scholars have so often since been divided. The history of Pergamon and Alexandria well illustrates the rivalry. A champion of the Pergamene school, a school of comparatively wide and humane letters, concocted in honour of the Alexandrians this epigram:

γωνιοβόμβυκες μονοσύλλαβοι, οἷσι μέμληεν
τὸ σφιν καὶ σφωίν καὶ τὸ μὴν ἡδὲ τὸ νῦν.

The contempt for people who buzz in corners over particles has never been so cuttingly and simply expressed as in that pentameter. We can imagine it applied, with malicious glee, to not a few contemporary scholars. It would however be a missing of the whole point of this volume if we regarded it as a record of needlessly pedantic lives. The thousand names that from their oblivion twinkle in these pages are not the names of unnecessary men. Few of them it is true have been in any sense our guides along the path of immortal literature, but most of them have done the requisite police duty in keeping it clear.

The attitude of early Christian thought to pagan wisdom and poetry is admirably set forth. Dr. Sandys with excellent judgment has left his readers to construct for themselves a synoptic idea of this and like matters. His chapters are chronological, and biographically arranged, and the character of the book as a work of reference is thus immensely helped. His chronological tables of the periods are full and convenient. We do not think any tables so good of their kind are to be found in any other English book. Of classical learning in what we complacently call the dark ages there is an excellent review. The deficiency of scholarship that underlay scholasticism (derived from an Aristotle filtered through Arabic channels into Latin translations) is the kind of subject on which compact information has hitherto been to seek; and the question of mediæval Greek study, which for great students like Grosseteste, and even for so enthusiastic an advocate of original versions as Roger Bacon, was at best a feeble twilight, gives interest to much in the later chapters. Study of Vergil in the Middle Age is briefly touched, too briefly we feel, though Dr. Sandys is not to blame for recognising limits of space. No wonder Vergil appealed to the hearts of men who built cathedrals. He alone of ancient poets has a mood which anticipates the dimness of a Gothic cloister. Much of his verse, with its mystical charm and ceremonial gravity, is preattuned, as it were, to the rhythm of the Mass.

The scope of this comprehensive volume, which as a shelf-book for the classical scholar will be quite indispensable, we have merely suggested not described. There is a class of learned writers, from Dionysius of Halicarnassus to S. Thomas Aquinas, with whose names the average educated man is almost as familiar as he is ignorant of their works. Of such he will find in this book compendious accounts much preferable to anything a dictionary could supply, and the numerous footnotes are stuffed with bibliographical matter that adds immeasurably to their value. Dr. Sandys promises another work, carrying down the history to the present day. As it is, he has placed under obligation not only all professional scholars, but every more or less cultivated person who hates classical dictionaries (and who does not?), yet has often been driven to consult them (usually in vain) by the obvious gap which this book is meant to supply.

IRISH RANCOUR AND RECONCILIATION.

"Ireland under English Rule, or a Plea for the Plaintiff." By Thomas Addis Emmet. Two vols.
New York and London: Putnam. 1903. 21s. net.

"Ireland's Renaissance." By R. J. Smith. Dublin: Hodges, Figgis. 1903. 3s.

"Ireland at the Cross Roads: an Essay in Explanation." By Filson Young. Second Edition.
London: Richards. 1904. 3s. 6d.

ENGLISHMEN as a rule are so indifferent to history that they find it hard to recognise the practical influence of partisan writings about events long past. A mind conscious of good intentions does not realise that its fellow-creatures may honestly

believe in its Satanic character. It is nevertheless true that in three countries of which we hear a good deal, the United States, South Africa, and Ireland, the conception of England as a vindictive and systematic oppressor is firmly held to-day by many men of intelligence and partial education, and that in two of them George III. is regarded somewhat in the light in which Mr. William Watson sees the present Sultan of Turkey. Anyone who is curious to discover how history is written for the Irish-American public may with advantage consult Dr. Emmet's prolix work, which the publishers, in a note whose impudence is equalled only by its bad grammar, say "should aid in bringing about a better understanding between the two countries".

Dr. Emmet's qualifications as an historian can easily be weighed. He has read widely—or rather read many things narrowly. He considers the views of the American Congress conclusive on the motives of the colonial policy of George III. and accepts the *Directeur Carnot* as a sound interpreter of the processes of Pitt's mind. He receives unhesitatingly the statements of that amusing liar Sir Jonah Barrington. He believes that the Irish played billiards in the second century of the Christian era, and "fully understood the solar system" five centuries before Galileo. He attributes to Dr. Douglas Hyde the odd statement that English students flocked to Armagh in the seventeenth century, whereas Dr. Hyde made this remark about the seventh century. Dr. Emmet's study of the period of the Civil Wars leads him to the conclusions that Strafford when Lord Deputy intrigued with the Puritans, and that Charles I. desired "to exterminate the entire Catholic population of Ireland". He has discovered the previously unknown fact that Fitzgibbon, Earl of Clare, "committed suicide from remorse". Nor is he more trustworthy on the affairs of his own continent, for to him the Acadia from which Longfellow's *Evangeline* was exiled becomes "Arcadia".

It will be seen that Dr. Emmet's statements as to the past must be viewed with caution. But if his work were merely worthless it would not deserve notice. Its interest lies in the facts that it is likely to be widely read in America and that its contents are sure to be reproduced for the benefit of the populace in Ireland, who will honestly accept them as correct. Our author is like those natives of India who bewilder judges by adding false evidence to any case, however strong. Dr. Emmet when he has a good case will not let it alone. The proceedings under the Cromwellian régime in Ireland were infamous enough to need no embellishment, but we are now told that 100,000 Irish children were sent abroad into slavery. No authority is given for the numbers. This, in fact, is Dr. Emmet's way. He cites, with authorities, some real outrage or oppression, and proceeds to add details of his own invention. In his treatment of current questions he shows himself to be strangely ignorant or deliberately insincere.

Anyone who has really read the 150 or so publications cited in the "Bibliography", and who has himself travelled in Ireland, must be assumed to know, or to be able to discover, the more elementary facts of Irish history, and of the present political conditions of the island. Few subjects have been so thoroughly discussed as the Penal Laws against Roman Catholics in force in the eighteenth century in Ireland. Edmund Burke with pardonable rhetoric described the system as "the worst species of tyranny that the insolence and perverseness of mankind ever dared exercise". But it is well known that the worst provisions of this iniquitous system were in practice not enforced, and that the legislation of 1793, which conferred the franchise on Irish Roman Catholics, swept away most of the pressing evils. The process of reform had in fact begun in 1771. Between 1793 and 1829, the year of "Emancipation", the Irish Roman Catholics enjoyed very many of the rights denied to their co-religionists in England and Scotland, and their principal practical disability was their exclusion from Parliament—a disability alike indefensible and impolitic. Dr. Emmet, however, cites with approval a statement, attributed to the "Freeman's Journal", which represents Roman Catholics as suffering up to 1829 from all the intolerable injustice of the undiluted Penal Code. On

the present education question he thinks to strengthen the case for a Roman Catholic University by the assertion that "within a few years past a university has been established by the Government in the North and another in the West of Ireland, one for the Presbyterians and another for the Methodists". The only place of university education in the West, Queen's College, Galway (founded 1845) would hardly recognise itself under the latter description! On the land question he even more boldly suggests the false. He gives a long list of land bills rejected by Parliament, but attempts no account of those passed. He states that to-day "the Irish landlord can evict at pleasure", whereas he must know that in any holding which comes within the scope of the Land Acts the landlord cannot evict at all except for non-payment of a rent fixed or fixable by a State tribunal. Had he taken the trouble to consult Mr. Barry O'Brien's "Fifty Years of Concessions to Ireland"—a book written from the Nationalist point of view—he would hardly have dared to ignore the remedial legislation of the nineteenth century. But Dr. Emmet prefers to believe that Ireland still suffers under all her ancient wrongs. He is much annoyed by the Land Purchase Act of 1903, because he knew that England would utilise the return of her army from South Africa (where the course of the British soldier "is regulated to-day . . . by the same selfish influence which developed his brutality in Ireland from the days of the Normans to the present time") to provoke a rebellion in Ireland. It seems a pity that the low cunning and brutal instincts of Mr. Balfour and Mr. Wyndham should have taken an unexpected turn and stultified a great part of Dr. Emmet's work!

Real students of Irish history will find just one thing of value in these 680 pages, a reprint of the diary kept in Paris in 1803-04 by an earlier Thomas Addis Emmet (our author's grandfather, and elder brother of the unfortunate Robert Emmet) while acting as secret agent of the United Irishmen. It is really interesting to see how the Irish rebel emissaries unconsciously proved to the French authorities their complete practical incapacity. Mr. Emmet, an honest enthusiast, had no wish to make Ireland a French province, and the moral of 1798 had so little impressed him that he hoped to negotiate with France as the ambassador of an equal Power, and seems to have believed Napoleon capable of undertaking a troublesome and difficult adventure merely pour les beaux yeux of Dark Rosaleen.

ἄλις σπουδῆς. We have seen the sort of stuff that has for years been preached to Irish Nationalists. With the poison comes something which may serve for an antidote, an interesting though rambling dissertation addressed to "the man in the street in Ireland" by Mr. R. J. Smith. He argues with the irreconcilables in a style which will at times bewilder English readers. He reminds them that since the Local Government Act "Irish Roman Catholics are now the ascendancy party in their own country". He combats certain current views with a spasmodic erudition not always impeccable. But he looks forward, not back, and instead of magnifying to his countrymen the real wrongs which their ancestors suffered he urges them to self-help at the present day. We commend his remarks on "partial truth" to Dr. Thomas Addis Emmet.

Mr. Filson Young's impressionist study of Ireland emphasises the importance, while it does not exaggerate the actual achievements, of this new spirit of social and industrial regeneration. It belongs to a class of books generally written better by French travellers than English, and because of its good writing and occasionally brilliant characterisations will probably puzzle those who do not know Ireland and infuriate many of those who do. His criticism of the Church of Rome (whose secure hold upon the people he acknowledges) is very severe, and yet many of her friends will share his pious aspiration that on some important practical matters (not of doctrine) she might modify her methods. His description of the Trappist monastery at Mount Mellerey is charming, and proves that he is no iconoclast. But he hardly seems to understand the odd compromise between the ultramontane and the Gaelic spirits that is to be observed in Roman Catholic Ireland. The book should certainly be read, but we would give the

cautions that Mr. Young, like most journalists, has a tendency to imagine that the congested districts of the West are Ireland—the only Ireland—and that some of his best epigrams, while true for literary purposes, would mislead if made the basis of political action. But we may make two selections as excellent if not complete expressions of facts which need recognition. "The English are irreligious by habit; the Irish are religious by nature. . . . This world is the reality with us. . . . But the Irish actually hold a living faith in future heaven and hell, and, alone among the Western peoples, live as though they held it." This, it seems to us, is profoundly true as an analysis of national temperament at the present day, absurd as it would be to consider it an exhaustive description. Religion is the great vital interest to classes in Ireland whose social counterparts in England are almost entirely concerned with the earning of their bread. And bread-winners are more easily governed than mystics. The next statement is more indisputably true: "We find all those civic virtues which go with dull and solid qualities flourishing in England, while from Ireland they are conspicuously absent. The English are good citizens; the Irish are among the worst, and invariably degenerate when they are grouped in civic communities." If the Roman Church in Ireland would add to her wonderfully successful teaching on personal morality the inculcation of civic duty—a virtue whose very name is unrecognised by many of her teachers—she could meet some of Mr. Young's strictures with greater confidence. In his preface to the second edition Mr. Young attempts to meet the accusation of Protestant bias apparently brought against him by certain critics in an unexpected way: he explains that his criticism "happens to be directed against Roman Catholicism as it exists in Ireland" because he believes Ireland to suffer from her religion and that religion "happens to be Roman Catholic". No doubt the scientific view of history can be pressed too far, but it is surely childish on Mr. Young's part to suggest either that the form of faith professed by a people in the twentieth century is a matter of accident, or that the criticisms which he urges against Roman Catholicism in Ireland to-day are "virtually the same" as those which might be passed on any other creed if it "happened" to dominate Ireland. There is just this element of accuracy in the latter hypothesis, that Mr. Young's view of the Irish peasantry might be expressed in the language which S. Paul, in a very different spirit, addressed to the men of Athens: *κατὰ πάντα ὡς ἀνθρώπων ἐστίν*. As compensation we are given some sensible remarks on the University question in Ireland. "Education is one of her urgent needs; and it should be the education that she would choose for herself, not that which English Nonconformists would choose for her. So long as England hampers or restricts her education, the religious hierarchy in Ireland can admit all our criticisms, and say, with a semblance of justice, that they (sic) are England's fault."

THE DRAMA OF CAWNPUR AND LUCKNOW.

"Selections from the Letters Despatches and other State Papers Preserved in the Military Department of the Government of India. 1857-8." Vols. II. and III. By G. W. Forrest. Calcutta. 1903

IT is seven years since Mr. Forrest produced his first volume dealing with the events that happened during the Mutiny at Delhi. Since then his time has been spent in the laborious investigation of the immense mass of material connected with the other leading episodes of the Mutiny and the selection of those most deserving of publication. It has been well spent, with the result that the public can read this stirring history almost at first hand. Mr. Forrest again prefixes what he modestly calls an Introduction. It is really a military history of the operations described in the records now published. Besides these official authorities he has obtained access to papers hitherto unknown or unpublished. Perhaps the most interesting of these is one which he has not felt himself at liberty to reproduce. It is an account written for him by one of the two

Englishwomen who escaped the massacre at Cawnpur. This clearly must be the lady who was so strangely discovered at Mecca some fifteen years or more ago and subsequently returned to India with the Mohamadan family who protected her and with whom she finally preferred to remain. From those who sought her out she concealed her real personality under the name of Zarah but she seems to have told more to Mr. Forrest than she disclosed to those around her. We still venture to doubt whether her real identity is even yet conclusively established, but her narrative, it may be hoped, will be some day given to the world.

Though the records now printed come from the military archives, they include a quantity of statements reports and diaries of surpassing interest, which are not military and there are others worthy of reproduction lying buried in district record rooms. But the selection is no doubt difficult and Mr. Forrest has done his work with judgment and discrimination. Such papers chiefly concern the events at Cawnpur—the episode that transcends all others in pathos, horror, heroism and its dramatic catastrophes. And yet even in the foulest part of this terrible story there is at least one feature of comfort—if such a word can be used. At the worst our countrywomen died unsullied. The horrors of their massacre must not mislead us into classing with its fiendish authors either the rebellious soldiery or a whole people who are naturally humane. Mr. Forrest justly reminds us that "the foul crime was perpetrated by five ruffians of the Nana's guard at the instigation of a courtesan. It is as ungenerous as untrue to charge upon a nation that cruel deed".

Every historian of the Mutiny has to face the difficulty of narrating a number of independent episodes which occurred simultaneously and of so co-ordinating them that a connected view of events may be maintained. Neither in the matter of time or place is it possible to sustain an uninterrupted narrative. It may however be reasonably questioned whether in the present volumes the sequence of events which Mr. Forrest has adopted is always the most appropriate. Beginning with Lucknow he tells the story of the defence down to the first relief under Havelock and Outram. Then he proceeds to narrate the campaign of Havelock up to the reoccupation of Cawnpur. Thence he goes back to tell the story of its heroic resistance and its treacherous massacres—surely the most piteous tale it has ever fallen to any English historian to record. After that he returns to Havelock and Outram and brings the history to the point where he had left the first defence of the Residency. Then he goes on to describe the second defence under Outram, the march of Greathed's victorious column from Delhi to Agra and Cawnpur, the arrival of Colin Campbell, the second relief and the evacuation of Lucknow, the disastrous operations under Windham at Cawnpur during Campbell's absence, the masterly action in which the Commander-in-Chief smote the Gwalior Brigade and the subsequent operations which cleared the Duab of the mutineers. Next come the campaign in the eastern districts and the advance of the allied force of Gurkhas under Jung Bahadur and the skilful defence by Outram of his position at the Alumbagh. The narrative winds up with the final capture of Lucknow and the discomfiture of the last formidable force of the mutineers. The appendices however go further and include Lord Clyde's journal of the harassing operations against the scattered forces in Rohilkhand and Oudh and the reoccupation of those divisions.

Incidentally Mr. Forrest introduces biographical sketches of Henry Lawrence, Outram, Havelock, Wheeler, and Lord Clyde. They serve to explain something of the excellences and defects of the characters and the operations he is describing. Lord Clyde, it must be confessed, though he stands out as a dauntless fighter does not specially shine either as a generous commander or a consummate strategist. Perhaps the finest of his performances was the action at Cawnpur in which he retrieved Windham's misfortunes. There, as in the second relief, he had Mansfield at his elbow while the admirable scheme of operations in the final capture of Lucknow was the work of Napier (of Magdala). For the deplorable miscarriage which permitted the defeated mutineer army to escape from the

city almost unmolested the Commander-in-chief cannot be exonerated though his namesake Brigadier Campbell seems to have been the most direct offender. What this blunder cost us the subsequent campaign in Oudh can tell. Lord Clyde failed to recognise adequately the merits of Outram's long and glorious struggle at the Alumbagh and even permitted his chief of the staff to address the General in terms that were positively offensive. It is easy to conceive how it must have tried even Outram's chivalrous sense of discipline to be gravely told "if the left be threatened by a battery H.E. would suggest the advisability of attacking and destroying" it before it can become a cause of annoyance". The volumes contain much to justify the extremely high rank which Lord Wolseley assigns to Outram among the generals who held command in the Mutiny. Nor can it be said that the great leaders of men whose initiative inspired the troops and secured victory against incredible odds find the recognition which they deserve and which history has given them, in the despatches of Lord Clyde. His report of the recapture of Lucknow does not contain the name of Hodson who met his glorious death at the storming of the Begum Kothi. Brasyer and his Sikhs receive the briefest passing mention—but Brigadier Campbell is highly commended.

In no respect do these volumes fulfil a more grateful duty than in putting on public record in accessible form the names and deeds of the many brave men of that epoch; not merely the Nicholsons and Outrams and others whose names are written large across the page, but the half-forgotten heroes of every degree and rank who unflinchingly gave their lives and counted the sacrifice an honour. To these gallant men, civilians and soldiers, Englishmen and Indians, this book might fitly be dedicated in the words of Havelock, addressed to his troops at the Nana's stronghold and engraved below his statue in Trafalgar Square. "Your labours, your privations, your sufferings and your valour will not be forgotten by a grateful country."

POLITY AND GROWTH.

"The Development of European Polity." By Henry Sidgwick. London: Macmillan. 1903. 10s. 6d. net.

THESE lectures are an additional proof of the loss which political science has sustained by the death of Mr. Henry Sidgwick. Representing as they do a professorial course which was frequently repeated, they will not be new to Cambridge students of the subject. But they will come as a surprise to many others who are familiar only with "The Elements of Politics". That work was analytical in method and had an air of detachment from reality. It was hard to believe that discussions so abstract in appearance were based upon the concrete facts of history. We have here the proof that Mr. Sidgwick's historical knowledge was both sound and comprehensive. The books on which he relied may often strike the specialist as out of date. But he had mastered them, and the facts for which he went to them were seldom such as can be only studied, or will be most profitably studied, in modern monographs.

Mr. Sidgwick deals with the political institutions of Europe from the Homeric age to the nineteenth century. His book is governed by the conception of civilised Europe as a single community; in dealing with Ancient Greece his purpose is to discuss the normal evolution of a city state; and similarly he finds it possible to generalise about the stages through which the national states of modern Europe have passed. The link between the political institutions of the Greek and the modern worlds he naturally discovers in Rome which passed by insensible stages from the position of a city state to that of a world empire. He is chary of suggesting hypotheses as to the connexion of Greek, Roman, and modern politics with one another. But the questions, whether such a connexion can be traced, and whether, in respect of political ideas, the Western world has developed continuously from the dawn of history to the present time, are necessarily suggested by his subject.

In a certain sense the result of modern research has

been to deepen and broaden the chasms which separate one great period of European history from another. From the Messenian wars to the age of the Macedonian Epigoni Greek history is all of one piece. The Roman Republic grows naturally into a Principate. The germs of many modern institutions may be found among the earliest Teutonic tribes. But it is another matter when we would affiliate Greece to Mycenæ, Rome to Greece, and the national states of our own age to Rome. The Sparta of Lycurgus, the Athens of Solon, are communities with a short history behind them. They had emerged from a swamp of barbarism into which Mycenæan culture had never penetrated; Minos had become a myth, and Agamemnon was remembered only as the hero of an epic, when Sparta and Athens were taking the first steps to found a settled polity. The institutions of the Roman Republic sprang from the soil of Latium and were fostered in their early periods of growth by influences of purely Italian origin. The political ideas of the Greek, so potent wherever the Greek was established as a colonist, fell back from the walls of Rome even as the phalanx of Pyrrhus gave way before the legions. And although the leaders of the vanguard in the barbarian invasions paid homage to the majesty of the Empire, their subjects and successors were incapable of preserving, still more of utilising, the institutions which the Empire had created. The barbarians accepted Christianity; and much that was valuable in antique culture passed to them through the channel of the Church. It is however difficult to discover any political ideas which were thus preserved. At the most we can trace to the influence of Rome the tradition of a universal Christian commonwealth, a respect for monarchy as a possible instrument by means of which the Pax Romana might be re-established, and here and there, in corners of the new barbarian states, a dignity, a municipal constitution, a trade-guild which survived the general wreck. In dealing with the barbarians Mr. Sidgwick does, it is true, suggest that such survivals may have exercised an influence on the future out of all proportion to their frequency and intrinsic importance. They supplied, he thinks, a model to the makers of new institutions in the latter part of the Dark Ages; the guilds and the communes of mediæval Europe, to take a definite instance, may have originated in this way, through conscious imitation. The hypothesis is an interesting one and might be applied with equal plausibility to other periods of transition. But, whether it be advanced with regard to those Dark Ages of which we have most knowledge, or to any similar stage of history, it is open to the same objections. It rests upon no evidence; it is unnecessary, since the parallels between Roman and mediæval institutions can be explained more naturally by reference to the circumstances under which development proceeded in each case; and it attributes to the politicians and organisers who stood at the threshold of modern Europe a wider experience and a greater faculty for conscious planning than we usually conceive them to have possessed.

Yet upon a broad view of the case it cannot be disputed that in each stage of history a higher level of political organisation has been reached; and while it is impossible to draw a genealogical chart in which the great states of the world might be represented as standing to one another in the relation of parent and child, there is another sense in which the past has exercised an influence on the future, even in the sphere of politics. Forms of government are, in the last resort, the expression of the national mind and character. And since there is no nation which has not at one period or another profited by the intellectual bequests of the past we may still believe, up to a point, in the continuity of political development. We can hardly imagine what would have been the line of Greek development, if the Homeric religion, mythology, and ethics had not furnished the staple of ordinary Greek education; but it is clear that in one way or another, the Homeric poetry was intimately connected with Mycenæan civilisation. No one, again, would venture to deny that the expansion and transformation of the Roman Republic were in part the outcome of that intellectual development which was stimulated by the influx of Greek art and thought and literature in the second

century B.C.; or that, among the influences which undermined the mediæval conception of the state, a foremost place must be assigned to Roman law and Greek political philosophy. It would be highly optimistic to assert that the stream of time has carried down to us all that was worth preserving from the past; and a very little knowledge of modern history suffices to show how completely the lesson of a great political experiment may be misread by those who study it even from an inconsiderable distance. The human race has been as wasteful of its past experience as most individuals have been of theirs. But whenever there has been the disposition to reform, in political or other matters, it is to the past that men have naturally turned for guidance, and on the basis which the past supplies they have founded their most durable achievements.

FANNY BURNEY.

"Fanny Burney (Madame D'Arblay)." By Austin Dobson. (English Men of Letters.) London: Macmillan. 1904. 2s. 6d. net.

MR. AUSTIN DOBSON, in his "Fanny Burney", has achieved the well-nigh impossible. In the first place, Miss Burney is not a writer whose merits can be tested or proved by quotation. In her novels, it is the development of character and the life-like movement that attract. In the Diaries, published after her death, some sixty years ago, it is the mass of portraiture, the lively observation, the distinctive touches, the accuracy of reproduction that are impressive, more than the style of the author, excellent though it is for its purpose. But Miss Burney was never exactly a stylist. She got drawn into the Johnsonian maelstrom; in "Evelina" there are the beginnings of a beautiful style, but "Cecilia" is distinctly inflated—and in later life, forgetting "Daddy" Crisp's excellent counsel in early days, to be lively above everything, Mme. D'Arblay exhibited a tendency to furbish up and redecorate the simple, pretty script of former years.

Thus Miss Burney is not a writer who can be judged by extracts, and extracts Mr. Dobson does not attempt to give. But he produces a desire in his reader's mind to investigate "Evelina" afresh and to explore the Diaries anew—though we confess we should have liked to hear a little more about the latter. Mr. Dobson indeed says that Mme. D'Arblay ranks, or deserves to rank, with the best diarists of all time. That is perfectly true; and we only wish that Mr. Dobson had attempted to analyse the charm a little more fully.

Then, in the second place, Fanny Burney derives a great part of her celebrity from the times in which she lived, and the people among whom she moved. When Dr. Burney settled in London about 1760 and became by far the most popular teacher of music of the day, as well as something of a literary celebrity, there were few of the famous people of the time whom Fanny did not have an opportunity of seeing. Garrick was a close friend of the household, Reynolds was another; and as Fanny Burney grew up, she spent long periods with Mrs. Thrale at Streatham, in the very den of Ursa Major himself. Then follows the extraordinary and unfortunate Court episode. It is hardly credible nowadays that a lady of thirty-three, who had written two of the best known novels of the day, should consent to accept the post of dresser to Queen Charlotte, perform the duties of a ladies' maid, mix the Queen's snuff, and spend hours in the society of the vulgar and irritable Mrs. Schwollenberg, who superintended the department. Yet so it was! Fanny Burney came out of her five years' slavery with shattered health, a small pension and a great deal of excellent diary.

Thus up to the age of forty, when she married M. D'Arblay, Miss Burney's life was lived, first in the very centre of the most intellectual society of the time, and then for five years at Court. Yet Mr. Dobson, in this tiny volume of 200 pages, contrives to give us some idea of the life that streamed past the girl, and to make an endless series of figures alive by means of characteristic and judicious touches.

It is a curious and interesting story that unfolds

itself. Fanny Burney seems to have been regarded as a shy and stupid child, but she had from the first a power of photographic observation. "Fanny carries birdlime in her brain", said her father, "for everything that lights there sticks". She had a delightful mentor in the shape of "Daddy" Crisp, a shrewd, affectionate and somewhat eccentric old gentleman, who lived a rather eremitical life in the country, listened to all the girl's shy enterprises and dreams, and encouraged her in a fatherly and sensible manner; by sixteen she had written enough to make a bonfire of her compositions, on her stepmother's advice; and it is amusing that Dr. Burney should have threatened, not long after, to post up a page of her private Diary in the market place at Lynn, if he ever saw it lying about again. Then came the Thrale and Johnson period which must have been the happiest of her life. "Evelina," written and published with great secrecy, made her famous. "You little character-monger, you!" said the great Dictator with a smile, shaking his head. But the death of "Daddy" Crisp, the remarriage of Mrs. Thrale, and the death of Johnson himself put a sad end to the delightful years; and then she went to Court.

It is curious to note that her imaginative and constructive power gradually declined. She never wrote anything so good as "Evelina"—"Cecilia" was on a lower level—though "Camilla", written after her marriage, brought her £3,000; and the total profits of the "Wanderer", for which book no one has ever been found to say a good word, amounted to £7,000 in the year in which "Mansfield Park" appeared, and Walter Scott received £700, as Mr. Dobson points out, for "Waverley". Beside these books she wrote for the stage two tragedies, one of which was acted and failed, and a comedy which was rehearsed, but withdrawn. Delicate as her constitution was, she lived on to be nearly ninety; her husband, a quiet, contented, amiable man, fond of gardening, was evidently a perfect comrade. They lived in France for some ten years where M. D'Arblay had obtained official employment: she had a sharp sorrow in the premature death of her virtuous and gifted son. But she seems to have been sustained all her life by her contented, active, wholesome disposition, her interest in humanity, and her writing.

Mr. Dobson's book brings out with great skill and, it is needless to say, high literary charm, the sweetness and fragrance of one of the most amiable characters in our literary history—and one cannot help admiring the dexterity with which, in a canvas crowded with interesting figures, he contrives both to subordinate them to the central figure of his heroine, and yet to invest them with the most distinct and characteristic vitality of their own.

NOVELS.

"The Viscountess Normanhurst." By Edward H. Cooper. Grant Richards. 6s.

Mr. Cooper's well-known preoccupation with children amounts in this book to infatuation. The greater portion of it is given up to the analysis of a sulky, sensitive, proud little girl; in the important years of her life between twelve and fifteen; and all sorts of unpleasant details about her physical development, her ailments, and their surgical treatment are dwelt upon with a kind of unhealthy interest which is something more than ordinary or even extraordinary child-worship. The young lady, Margery Fane, is placed by a careless, heartless mother, under the charge of two young men, at a time when passing out of childhood she is suffering physically and mentally from the lack of feminine care; until her physical development reaches a point when childish affection becomes sexual love, and she promises to marry the man who has hitherto behaved towards her as a kind of nursery-maid. One of Mr. Cooper's characters—Gordon Snell, a peculiarly offensive type of "bounder" who supplies Margery's mother, Lady Normanhurst, with money, says "Oh, damn it all, if you're going into any more details of this filthy surgical business, I'm off. Every man, woman, and child one meets nowadays tells one how some doctor has cut their stomachs open, and all that he found inside, and what he did with it. My

nerves are pretty good, but they are not good enough for modern dinner-table conversation". The foregoing remarks might very well be echoed by the reader, unless he shares Mr. Cooper's peculiar taste for physiological details. In every other respect the book is singularly charming. There is a delightful description of Westgate, nine-tenths of the population of which goes to bed at seven, and where the parish register runs shortly "Mr. Johnson, 60 sittings; Mr. Jackson, 80 sittings; Miss Benson, 45 sittings"; and where "the Church on a summer morning, with its rows of pretty child-faces, and masters and mistresses mounting guard over them, looks like a field of primroses with tall grasses rising at intervals from among them". His people are actual, their conversation is entertaining, possible and significant, if not exactly brilliant. He writes with a firm delicate touch, his style is careful and polished, while quite easy and fluent, and over all his work is the pervading charm of a kindly, genial spirit; and of a refinement of feeling, which makes one wonder at the singular taste he displays in exposing a young girl's most delicate physical experience as a subject of literary treatment.

"The Motor Pirate." By G. Sidney Paternoster. London: Chatto and Windus. 1903. 6s.

Mr. Paternoster, in a happy moment of invention, has devised a new species of Knight of the Road. "There be land-rats and water-rats, land thieves and water-thieves"—then why not a Motor Pirate? You may read about him in this almost "up-to-date" story. We say "almost", because the Pirate, fortunately for himself and us, ran his wild career before the date when motor-cars were obliged to be registered and numbered. How he managed to evade the vigilance of the Surrey police, since his normal pace was sixty miles an hour, puzzles us. Still, we are glad he did, or where would the story have been? It is also curious that the simplest of readers will early decide to identify the Pirate with a certain mysterious Mannerling, whereas it was a very long time before such a conclusion forced itself on the keenest intellect of Scotland Yard. But perhaps there is here a touch of playful sarcasm. There are stirring incidents in these pages, and the excitement culminates in a breathless chase from St. Albans to Land's End. The Pirate ended there, too, in a manner which may all good motorists escape. "The Motor Pirate" is a bright and readable narrative, and one well calculated to beguile the tedium of a foggy day.

"The Spirit of the Service." By Edith Elmer Wood. New York: The Macmillan Company. London: Macmillan. 1903. 6s.

There is a certain type of character to be found in the British army and navy about which we do not write much, because to us it is normal, natural, inevitable. Miss Wood does, and has written a readable but very slight story about it. An American girl, thrown into naval society for the first time, is delighted and puzzled by it. "I've been brought up in a world whose ideals are commercial. Almost all the people I know reckon life by dollars and cents. The others judge it by intellectual standards." Certainly one can hardly associate the spirit of the Service, with its notions of duty and discipline, with the standards of either Chicago or Boston. The hero of the present story, a middle-aged captain who hates politicians, lawyers, and reporters, suffers from political bosses because he will not do jobs in a dockyard, is abused by reporters because he will not talk to them, and finally is lionised—to his great discomfort—because he is the first captain to return from the battle of Manila. The opening scene with a Tammany boss is excellent. As a study of temperaments, in fact, "The Spirit of the Service" is distinctly good.

"The Lady of the Island." By Guy Boothby. London: John Long. 1904. 5s.

One great advantage of Mr. Boothby's method is that any given theme will furnish any number of words required by the author at the moment. There are some unpractical people who pretend to recognise a difference in kind between the novel and the short story. Mr. Boothby knows better. The eleven stories in the present volume might have made eleven novels had

their creator felt expansive: as it is, they are set down in comparatively few words. One can find dozens no better and no worse in the cheaper monthly magazines. Mr. Boothby, however, has a somewhat individual knack of combining the physical fact of brevity with the mental quality of prolixity. A good deal of the book is concerned with Australia, but we are given the inevitable sample of Egyptian occultism. We search the volume in vain for originality or freshness. Each story is such as might have suggested itself to a hundred men, written as ninety-nine of them would have written it.

"Sly-Boots." By John Strange Winter. London: John Long. 1904. 6s.

We notice with melancholy admiration that "Sly-Boots" is the eighty-fourth volume published by the author of "Bootles' Baby", who yet has not attained to the dignity of a collected edition. Anyone who has read a few score of these books will know what to expect, and the reviewer's duty is probably done when he states that John Strange Winter's latest work consists of eighteen short stories which are neither her best nor her worst. We can hardly say that eighteen distinct motifs are represented: the creation and mechanical removal of some arbitrary obstacle between two lovers accounts for the greater part of the batch—as for most magazine fiction. "Sly-Boots" is the nickname given to a bishop by a subaltern masquerading as a girl, but the stories are all really quite virtuous. O blessed gift of prolixity!

"Before the British Raj: a Story of Military Adventure in India." By Major Arthur Griffiths. London: Everett. 1903. 3s. 6d.

This is a brisk little story of eighteenth-century India, when John Company had not yet settled conclusions with the Mahrattas, and European adventurers were carving short-lived principalities out of the territories of the moribund Mogul empire. The hero leaves the British army after a regimental duel, sets up as a soldier of fortune, marries a beautiful Begum, and finally helps Lord Lake to conquer the North-West Provinces. Two interesting condottieri, the Irishman George Thomas and the Frenchman Perron, figure in the book. Major Griffiths has chosen a very stirring period of history, too little known, and has handled his materials well. The volume is padded with a harmless fifty-page society novelette called "A Fool at Forty", which comes as an anti-climax.

"The Professor's Wife: a Tale of Black Forest Life." By Berthold Auerbach. Translated by F. E. Hynam. London: Drane. 6s.

This German novel, published in 1847, is well translated by Mr. Hynam, but we confess that we do not find it very interesting. An artist, given a court appointment in a German principality, marries the daughter of a village innkeeper: his holiday wooing in the Black Forest and married life in the capital are described with conscientious exactness. It is the old story of the Lord of Burleigh in a bourgeois German setting. But in 1847, when new ideas were fermenting, this book, with its socio-political analysis of German life, may very well have aroused interest. To-day—well, 1847 is farther away in Germany than in most countries, and there is no special lightness of touch or skill in characterisation to attract the mere novel-reader.

LORD SALISBURY AND THE "QUARTERLY REVIEW".

We quite understand the "Quarterly Review" recalling to the public mind that Lord Salisbury used to be one of their regular contributors. Between 1860 and 1883, when he became absorbed in the cares of office, Lord Salisbury wrote thirty-three articles in the "Quarterly Review" whose pride in the matter is pardonable and legitimate. But we doubt whether the article in the current number of our contemporary, giving copious extracts from these early effusions of the late Prime Minister, will enhance his reputation. We go further. We do not believe that there is any great statesman whose fame would not be injuriously affected by the reproduction of his youthful anonymous contributions to magazines or newspapers. In 1860 Lord Robert Cecil was at the dangerous age of thirty, when the modesty of youth has flown before the experience of age has arrived. He was not on good terms with his father; he was poor; he had not done anything in politics. What sort of

articles are likely to flow from the pen of a clever man in such circumstances? Parliamentary reform was the fashion of the day; and Lord Robert Cecil girded at the new policy with all "the flouts and gibes and sneers" of which Lord Beaconsfield described him as the master. These Quarterly articles of Lord Salisbury are a string of falsified prophecies, couched in language which only makes us smile to-day, and which only serve to throw into strong relief the real genius and prescience of Disraeli, and his unjust treatment at the hands of the young aristocrat. Writing of the proposed Reform Bill of 1860 Lord Robert Cecil says, "We are humbly carrying our homage to some new king, but we know neither his name nor character. . . . Some say that the publicans will be our masters; others declare that it will be the trades unions. It is a blessed choice between debauchery and crime. On the whole we pray for king publican and his merry rule. . . . Elagabalus is more tolerable than Caligula." How can our contemporary think that it does a service to the reputation of a great statesman by reprinting ferocious nonsense of this kind? In the same article he solemnly declared that Gladstone's career was at an end; in 1863 that the agitation for Reform was "an intrigue," which the common sense of the people had killed; and in 1867 that to find a parallel for the conduct of Disraeli in passing household suffrage you would have to go back "to the days when Sunderland directed the councils and accepted the favours of James, while he was negotiating the invasion of William". No one would laugh more heartily at such rubbish than Lord Salisbury, were he alive. If the object of the "Quarterly Review" was to remind us that Beaconsfield, though he was often denounced as an alien and "un-English", knew the British character and read the nation's history a great deal more accurately than Salisbury, the great noble, it has succeeded. But we suppose that was hardly its intention. We can only repeat that an article such as this does a disservice to Lord Salisbury's memory. His real title to greatness lies in his defeat of Home Rule and his success in keeping England out of war until the Transvaal calamity.

FEBRUARY REVIEWS.

The weight of evidence supplied by the monthly reviews in the great trial of Protection versus Free Imports is distinctly on the side of Protection. The free imports system is defended in the "Independent" by Sir Edward Grey who regarding the protectionist campaign as the outcome of weakness, despair and hatred of the foreigner rather than love for the Empire, delivers a little homily on degenerate patriotism. In the "Contemporary" Mr. J. A. Hobson tries to unravel the Mystery of Dumping. As a means of disposing of a temporary surplus he admits that dumping is a general practice, but he finds no evidence that the practice is sufficient to render taxation on account of it deserving of present consideration. He is not prepared to fight "dumping" till it is organised. In the "Fortnightly" Mr. W. M. Lightbody with the utmost seriousness burlesques the protectionist ideal of foreign trade. He is one of those happy people who know all about the workings of the import and export system. He explains the balance of trade thus: "The difference [between exports and imports] is made up by invisible exports, or settled indirectly through transactions with third countries". Many protectionists, he says, seem unable to free themselves from the belief that it is possible to sell without buying. We should retort that the free importers' idea is that it is possible to buy without selling. This sort of text-book repartee advances nothing. Mr. Lightbody reaches the pinnacle of economic absurdity when, having decided that the fundamental ideas of the modern protectionist are a self-contained empire and what he describes as the True Theory of Imports, he works the matter out to his own logical satisfaction to this effect:—"Our supplies of food and raw material are to be derived exclusively from the British possessions, and at the same time we are to refuse to take anything but non-competitive imports from foreign countries. As non-competitive imports are practically food and raw material, and as the colonies are to supply all our wants, it is clear that we can import practically nothing from foreign countries. Do protectionists wish that we should make these countries a present of our exports? Surely, the most enthusiastic of them would draw the line there. It follows, therefore, that we must give up exporting to them, and our foreign trade will no longer trouble us with declining figures and signs of decay; for it will have ceased to exist." The syllogism is exquisite and would be perfect if the premiss squared with the facts.

To turn from the free importer to the tariff reformer is to turn from theory to hard facts. A lengthy, vigorous and rousing article in "Blackwood's" exposes some foreign trade fallacies, and sets out a mass of details which show how while food imports have increased, raw materials are costing us more and decreasing in quantity, at the same time that manufactured exports to foreign countries are declining. "Blackwood" is among those who consider that the amount credited as earnings to our shipping has been grossly exaggerated and declares that fully one half of the ninety millions a year of shipping revenue with which Lord Goschen and Sir Robert Giffen seek to fill up the gulf between imports and exports vanishes

into air on expert examination. How little the shipping side of the question is properly understood may be realised from an article in the "Nineteenth Century" by Mr. W. H. Renwick. We are told that tariff will at least ruin British shipping. Here is Mr. Renwick's answer after a careful survey of the whole position: "A policy of tariff reform which would reduce the importation of foreign manufactured goods would have none of the evils for shipping which are so freely predicted by those opposed to change. If an import duty checks the flow of finished articles into this country, then we must import the raw material to furnish our manufacturers with the wherewithal to make these commodities: this would increase to a very large extent the number of ships employed". The most valuable article on the side of tariff reform is however that by Mr. R. H. Inglis Palgrave in the "National" on colonial friends and foreign rivals. If any man can read this able article, based entirely on the facts and figures supplied by the Blue Book, and still doubt whether our foreign trade is going to the bad, whilst our exports are saved by the colonies, then we can only say he is a fanatic and past hope of economic salvation. Mr. Palgrave briefly summarises the conclusions at which he arrives after a patient examination of the official statistics:—"The exports of our own manufactures to foreign countries are shown to be decreasing. The imports of raw materials which provide occupation for our working classes are also shown to be decreasing. The numbers of the workers in proportion to the population is also shown to be decreasing. Diminished provision of work for our population must follow. Can any questions be more serious? Can any be more closely connected with the prosperity of the country?"

Reviewers who elect to discuss the Far Eastern Question have been hampered by the uncertainty as to what may have happened by the time their views appeared in print. In the "Fortnightly" Calchas falls back on "first principles" and warns us, whilst strictly observing our engagements to Japan, not to take action which by hurting Russia would assist Germany. Russia moreover is the ally of France and in his view the maintenance of the friendship with France ought now to be the primary object of British diplomacy. Mr. W. Petrie Watson in the same Review goes fully into the financial and economic situation in Japan, and shows how since 1896 she has spent more than she can afford on armaments. Her compensation is efficiency—an important matter, as Mr. Watson says, from the point of view of her ally. Mr. Robert Machray in the "Monthly" considers that Japanese finances have materially improved in the last two or three years; Japanese banks have reserves amounting to several millions and a war would cost Russia a great deal more than Japan. In the "Nineteenth Century" Mr. J. H. Longford, who was recently British Consul at Nagasaki, describes Japanese relations with Korea and Manchuria, and says the wonder is that Japan, in the face of the provocation she has received, has not struck before. Active List in "Blackwood's" estimates the respective chances of Russia and Japan in a naval contest. He is of opinion that even if Japan won on the seas, there would be a tremendous task ahead for the Japanese army. In the "Independent Review" are two articles on the Far Eastern problem, one by Mr. A. J. Herbertson the other by Mr. A. M. Latter, showing the struggle to secure the opening up of China to commerce and the steps by which Russia and Japan have advanced till they find themselves face to face in a quarrel as to which is to take control of Chinese destinies. In the "National" his Excellency Senator Eugenio Montero Rios writes on another country which may easily become a bone of contention between other Powers—Morocco. He considers that the time is remote when Morocco's inheritance will be distributed, but when it arrives he is of opinion that Spain must have a voice in the matter.

Among the most notable articles in the month's reviews is Lord Cromer's reply, in the "Nineteenth Century", to Lord Wolseley's attack on the "iconoclastic civilians" who are placed in a position of authority in army matters. The defence of the civilian leads Lord Cromer to make the interesting revelation that he had at least as much to do with the reconquest of the Sudan as Lord Kitchener. The Sirdar was under his orders, and Lord Cromer was responsible for the movements of an army of 25,000 men in the field. But so far as we can see from Lord Cromer's lengthy paper, the campaign was a great success because he had a trusty commander at hand and wisely left everything to him! The literary articles in the reviews are unusually numerous. In the "Fortnightly" Mr. Arthur Waugh and in the "Independent" Mr. N. Wedd have "appreciations" of George Gissing. Other literary essays in the "Fortnightly" are le Comte de Ségur's account of the changes which have taken place in the methods and manner of the French novel in our day. Mr. William Watson complains that the State is indifferent to literature to the point of positive discouragement, but what can be expected of a country which is illiterate, though not incurably so? He advocates reform, but his own ideas are a little vague, and he leaves the matter to the social reformer. Mr. Stephen Gwynn is in his element in describing the life of an Irish song. In the "Nineteenth Century" Sir Edward Sullivan advocates the claims of a neglected volume in Shakespeare's library;

(Continued on page 180.)

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"The new number of the "Law Magazine and Review" is a very interesting one. It is rather remarkable however that with the exception of the Notes on Recent Cases, there is not an article dealing with what may be called text-book subjects; but this decidedly adds to the literary character of the magazine. The principal topics are "Legal Education in Germany" by Dr. Gustav Schirmermeister, a German jurist who compares the quality of legal education required in Germany with that in England. While the number of subjects appears large Dr. Schirmermeister points out that our uncoded law demands even a higher scientific education than that of Germany. The article on Roman Law in English Decisions notes the cases in which citations have been made as authorities or as analogies from the Roman Law Jurists. If Mr. E. D. Parker does not add to our historical knowledge of "The Origin and History of the Chancery Division" he at least traces its growth in a very pleasant readable manner. Other articles are "Trade Regulations in the Middle Ages" by Mr. Percy Houghton Brown; "Blockade and Contraband: Law and Practices of Nations in Recent Times" by Mr. Charles L. Nordon; and "The Right of the Subject to Personal Liberty in English Law" by Mr. S. P. J. Merlin. The Current Notes on International Law by Mr. Phillimore deal with the Alaska Award, the Venezuelan Arbitration, and Korea and the Powers. The Reviews of Books are numerous and skilfully done.

We may call attention to the "Canada Law Journal" for January which contains an able article on the Alaska Award. In the course of it the writer says in reference to Lord Alverstone that there is no desire on the part of anyone in Canada to injure the character of Lord Alverstone; but he adds "We are most heartily sorry that we are compelled in justice to the people of this Dominion and to their representatives on the Commission to set the facts before our readers. If these facts and the conclusions which apparently must be drawn therefrom, are not to the credit of Lord Alverstone, it is not our fault".

For This Week's Books see page 182.

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opened with a marked improvement on 1903. With these remarks he moved: "That the report and accounts be received, adopted, and entered on the minutes."

Mr. Caesar Czarnikow seconded the motion, which was then put and carried unanimously.

The Chairman next moved the payment of a final dividend of 4s. 6d. per share on the 50,000 ordinary shares of the Company and a dividend of £25 per share on the 100 founders' shares, both less income tax, payable on February 2.

Mr. Czarnikow seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

The Chairman then proposed a vote of thanks to the manager, secretary, and staff for the admirable way in which they had conducted the business of the Company.

Mr. Czarnikow seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

The Manager (Mr. William Schultz), in acknowledging the compliment, said they had no reason to be dissatisfied with the result of the past year.

Mr. F. W. Fuller proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman and directors.

Mr. A. Stern, in seconding the motion, referred to the admirable work that the managers and staff of the Clearing-house had performed, especially during the last few months.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The Chairman thanked the shareholders for the honour they had done the directors, and the proceedings terminated.

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LONDON & COUNTY BANKING COMPANY LTD.

Registered under "The Companies Acts." Established in 1836.

CAPITAL £8,000,000, IN 100,000 SHARES OF £80 EACH.

REPORT adopted at the HALF-YEARLY ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING, the 4th February, 1904.

WILLIAM EGERTON HUBBARD, Esq., in the Chair.

The Directors, in submitting to the Shareholders the Balance-sheet for the half-year ending 31st December last, have to report that, after paying interest to customers and all charges, making provision for bad and doubtful debts, and allowing £31,369 9s. 4d. for rebate on bills not due, the net profits amount to £279,443 14s. 8d. From this sum has been deducted £116,490 5s. transferred to Investment Accounts, leaving £162,953 9s. 8d., which, with £85,102 6s. balance brought forward from last account, leaves available the sum of £248,055 15s. 8d.

The Directors have declared a Dividend for the half-year of 10 per cent., which will require £200,000, leaving the sum of £48,055 15s. 8d. to be carried to the Profit and Loss New Account.

The present Dividend, added to that paid to 30th June, will, with the bonus then paid, make a distribution of 21 per cent. for the year 1903.

In view of the present depreciation of first-class securities the Directors have also decided to transfer £450,000 from the Reserve Fund to Investment Accounts for the purpose of writing down the Bank's holding in Consols to 85, and the other Investments to their market value.

The Reserve Fund will then stand at £1,250,000.

The Directors retiring by rotation are John Annan Bryce, Esq., John Green, Esq., and William Anastasius Jones, Esq., who, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The Dividend, £2 per Share, free of Income Tax, will, if confirmed, be payable at the Head Office, or at any of the Branches, on or after Monday, 15th February.

BALANCE-SHEET

Of the London and County Banking Company Limited, 31st December, 1903.

[illegible]

Profit and Loss Account.

<i>Dr.</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>Cr.</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
To Interest paid to Customers	158,659	6	4		By Balance brought forward from last Account	85,102	6	0
Salaries and all other Expenses, at Head Office and Branches, including Income Tax on Profits and Salaries, Auditors' and Directors' Remuneration.....	397,133	7	1	Gross Profit for the Half-Year, after making provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts, and including Rebate £76,729 16s. 6d. brought from 30th June last	776,625	17	5	
Transferred to Consols and other Investment Accounts.....	116,490	5	0					
Rebate on Bills not due, carried to New Account	31,369	9	4					
Dividend 10 per cent. for the Half-Year	£200,000	0	0					
Balance carried forward.....	48,055	15	8					
	248,055	15	8					
	£861,728	3	5			£861,728	3	5

Examined and audited by us.

(Signed)

W. HOWARD,
W. E. HUBBARD,
CHAS. J. C. SCOTT.

Audit Committee of Directors.

H. DEAN, Head Office Manager.

RICHD. LEMON, Country Manager.

G. K. SMITH, Chief Accountant.

London and County Banking Company Limited,
18th January, 1904.

In accordance with the Provisions of the Companies Act, 1900, we certify that all our requirements as Auditors have been complied with, and we report that we have examined the Balance-sheet and Profit and Loss Account, dated the 31st December, 1909, have verified the Cash-Balance at the Bank of England, the Stock and other Investments, and the Bank and Cash Balances, and have also examined the several Books and Vouchers and certified Returns showing the Cash-Balances, Bills, and other Amounts set forth, the whole of which are correctly stated; and in our opinion the said Balance-sheet and Profit and Loss Account are properly drawn up to give a true and correct view of the Company's affairs as shown by the books of the Company.

(Signed)

GEO. H. FABER,
HY. GRANT,
THOS. HORWOOD,

Auditors.

London and County Banking Company Limited,
21st January, 1904.

LONDON & COUNTY BANKING COMPANY LIMITED.

Notice is hereby given, that a Dividend on the Capital of the Company, at the rate of 10 per cent. for the half-year ending 31st December, 1903, will be payable to the Shareholders either at the Head Office, 21 Lombard Street, or at any of the Company's Branches, on or after Monday, the 15th instant.

By order of the Board,

F. J. BARTHORPE, *Secretary*

21 Lombard Street, 5th February, 1904.

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